

THE LITERARY GAZETTE

AND

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REVIEWS OF NEW BOOKS.

THE LATE SIR ROBERT PEEL.

The Opinions of Sir Robert Peel, expressed in Parliament and in Public. With a Biographical Memoir. Second Edition. Hall, Virtue, and Co.

It is too early a day to sit calmly and impartially in judgment on the political career and character of the distinguished statesman whose melancholy death has, for the present, turned difference of opinion into silence, and even censure into eulogy. Yet this volume is not only of much value and interest, from its collection of materials to meet the popular curiosity of its own time, but from furnishing a standard on which future times may form that judgment which would now be premature. The compiler appears to us to have performed his task diligently and fairly; and to have done nearly all that could be done within his assigned compass in an honest and judicious manner. The more private and intricate movements of the machinery that led to the speeches and acts here recorded could not of course be known to the editor; nor can the means of correct analysis be supplied before a generation, and perhaps more, have passed away. But as far as general publicity has enabled him, we think his tracing of causes and effects, and probable inducements and events, as unbiassed as could be expected. The Roman Catholic and the Currency questions, and the Free Trade and Corn Law conversion of Sir Robert Peel, will be the grand tests of his name with posterity: at present their results are unascertained, and we must wait for the more complete development of the religious and commercial systems they have so powerfully affected, before we can pronounce whether they are for the good or evil of the British Empire. The two great changes of the minister, from being the most zealous and distinguished opponent of the Roman Catholic and Anti-Corn Law agitations, to carrying the concessions to the former and putting himself at the head of the latter, are defended by him with extraordinary ingenuity and talent in the speeches delivered in reference to them. The yielding tonal pressure in both cases is the avowed ground; and certainly as regarded the Irish and the Romish arguments, the explanations were politically forcible,—rather more so than in the later instance, which laboured under the further disadvantage of being the *second example* of an entire alteration of opinion. It is easy to see to what suspicions and accusations such a circumstance exposes a public man, and what a *point d'appui* it gives his adversaries to represent him as inconsistent and even treacherous. Under such imputations Sir Robert Peel suffered much within the last few years; and the withdrawal of old and attached personal friendships could not but deeply wound his mind. But apart from these consequences and feelings, his own difficulties were prodigious when he came to adopt the abolition of

protection. For he had to show himself prepared to meet the results which only a few years before he had so glowingly painted as so contrary to all bygone, and so ruinous and fatal to all future English policy. In 1840, on Mr. Villiers' motion on the Corn Laws, he thus prophetically declared his objections:—

"The principle of total repeal, I perfectly understand. It is certainly a magnificent scheme for introducing, in our intercourse with foreign nations, that principle which ought to regulate the intercourse of this great empire within its own boundaries. I doubt the possibility of applying the principle to the external commerce of this country, in a state of society so artificial, with relations so complicated, and with such enormous interests at stake, which have grown up under another principle, however defective it may be—namely, the principle of protection in certain cases. If the principle now contended for is good for the regulation of the trade in corn, it is good for the trade in many other articles. If good as affecting corn, it is clearly good as affecting labour. Upon this principle there ought to be no navigation laws,—every merchant ought to be allowed to procure labour at the cheapest possible rate, and there ought to be no preference for the British seaman. But the legislature controls that principle, just in the abstract, by a reference to the necessity of providing for the defence of this country in case of danger. It is found beneficial to encourage our own marine, and to endeavour to secure the maritime eminence of this country by giving a protection to its marine. Therefore, in this instance, the legislature corrected the principle, however good it may be in the abstract, by giving a preference to the seamen of this country. Besides, if the principle is to be applied generally, the whole colonial system must be altered. Foreign sugar must be entitled to admission into the home market on terms equally favourable with the sugar of our own colonies. The timber duties must of course be got rid of. Every protecting duty on manufactures must be abolished, precisely on the same principle on which it is argued that there ought to be no protecting duty for corn; and, as I have said before, if the principle is good in the case of corn—if you may not take an insurance against the caprice or hostility of foreign countries in times of war, and against the vicissitudes of seasons, by encouraging the home producer; neither must you seek to secure the pre-eminence of the marine of the country, by giving an advantage to the labour of British seamen,—neither must you give a preference to the productions of your own colonies, or afford protection to your own manufacturers. Theoretically and in the abstract, this magnificent plan may be correct; but when I look to the practice, to the great interests which have grown up under another system—when I find that whatever theoretical objections may apply to that system, still great and complicated interests have grown up under it, which probably cannot be disturbed without immense peril—when I, besides, bear in mind, that defective as that system may be, yet under it this country, considering its population, has acquired the greatest colonial empire, the greatest Indian empire, the greatest influence which any country ever possessed—when I consider, also, that under this system, I will not say in consequence of it, for that may be denied by hon. gentlemen opposite, but simultaneously with it we present this spectacle to the world—a country limited in extent and

population, yet carrying on a greater commercial and manufacturing enterprise than any other country ever exhibited,—when I consider all these things, I will not go to the length of the prime minister, who said that he who entertains the notion of upsetting this system, 'proposes the maddest thing he ever heard of,' but this I will say, that I will not consent to put to hazard those enormous interests, for the purpose of substituting an untried principle for one which may be theoretically defective, but under which practically our power and greatness have been established; fearing that the embarrassment, the confusion and distress which thereby may arise, will greatly countervail and outweigh any advantage which can be anticipated from establishing at the expense of what is practically good that which may be theoretically correct."

Without hinting at any opinion of our own, we will only repeat that the minister who (no doubt from his honest conviction that the country must for its probable benefit encounter these fearful chances) carried the measure he had thus described, had no ordinary duty to perform, no common difficulties to reconcile. That Sir Robert Peel could have no unworthy ambition to gratify by this course, so painful to himself, appears to be self-evident. What the world will have to determine will be the wisdom or the inexpediency of the measure, and the firmness or want of that quality in the minister who accomplished it.

But these matters would lead us more into party discussion than belongs to the character of the *Literary Gazette*, and we find it no easy matter to state the abstract facts, without showing a leaning one way or other, as we have here endeavoured to do in noticing so essentially political a publication. To avoid the fate of the moth with the candle, we therefore seek by flight to save our wings, and leave all the minor parliamentary affairs and official acts *sans comment*. There are two or three things, however, which we may notice without danger.

First, the FINE ARTS, of which Sir Robert Peel was a distinguished patron, and touching which his views were generally liberal and national. So long ago as 1832, in the committee of supply, he pointed out the way to the Schools of Design:—

"The interest of our manufacturers is involved in every encouragement being held out to the fine arts of the country. It is well known that our manufacturers are, in all matters connected with machinery, superior to their foreign competitors; but in the pictorial designs, which are so important in recommending the productions of industry to the taste of the consumer, they are, unfortunately, not equally successful, and hence they have found themselves unequal to their rivals. This deserves the serious consideration of the House in its patronage of the Fine Arts."

The National Gallery, Royal Academy, British Museum, and our Native School, had also a warm and zealous friend in him, and the following, after our review of Mr. Doyle's pamphlet (see No. 1747, pp. 474-5,) is especially deserving of being revived from the debates of 1839:—

"I do hope to see the day when this country will be rich enough to build for itself a depository for the Arts worthy of the British nation. I do hope to see the day when, in the most favoured part of Hyde Park, I shall witness the erection of a magnificent building devoted to works of art, not for the accommodation of the sovereign, but for the accommodation and delight of the universal people of this country—for their amusement, for their intellectual refinement, and for their improvement in the arts generally. Then we shall be able to give up the remainder of the building at Charing Cross to the Royal Academy, and shall not be ashamed to take the foreigner coming from Munich, adorned as that city is with beautiful structures of art, by means of a sum which is not one five-hundredth part of our revenue, into the National Gallery of Great Britain."

The head of LITERATURE, it is a marvel and a reproach, does not appear in the index to the contents. How many years was Peel, as well as Pitt, prime minister of England, and we scarcely find literature connected with their names. The only paragraphs applicable to the subject were spoken in 1837, on a motion relative to the civil list,* when Sir Robert observed,—

"I have already said that I consider the grant of 1,200*l.* far too limited for the proper exercise of the royal prerogative in rewarding literary and civil merit. That is my opinion, and I predict that the country will participate in it before long. What will be the consequence? The feelings of the country will revolt at seeing men who have devoted their talents and their energies to the prosecution of literary and scientific pursuits for the practical benefit of the community, languishing in distress and want. The Crown will be applied to for succour, but applied to in vain; for, with every disposition, it will not have the means to grant a pension so loudly demanded by all the dictates of humanity, of gratitude, and of sound policy. What will then be the case? The House of Commons will have to step in, and avert the consequences of an error of which it has been guilty; but at the same time take to itself the merit of the grant, to the obvious disparagement of the Crown." * * *

"The hon. gentleman opposite said, that giving a reward to a meritorious individual is a very invidious proceeding, and calculated rather to give offence than otherwise to the other members of the same class. Now, this, I must be allowed to say, is a very extraordinary argument. Why, what used to be said of this country in comparing it with surrounding nations? Was it not said that despotic nations rewarded science and selected eminent scientific and literary men, anxious to pay them a just compliment whilst they also afforded them a substantial reward? 'See what despotic governments do;—they reward science—they select eminent men—and are anxious to pay a compliment to them, by conferring upon them some substantial reward.' The argument of the hon. member is conclusive against Sir Walter Scott being made a baronet, because it applies equally to granting a pension as a dignity. Doubtless, the hon. gentleman will say that the honorary distinction costs nothing, whilst the pension would put the country to the expense of 300*l.* a year. It is the *argumentum ad pecuniam* which seems altogether to influence the hon. member's views. I always thought, that when a literary man of eminence was selected for

* It should be remembered, however, that the minister has a miserably limited fund at his command wherewithal to succour literary misfortune, or reward literary desert. Upon an earlier occasion than is here quoted, Sir Robert Peel, if our recollection serves us aright, expressed an opinion hostile to the proposition of Mr. Hume, for decorating literary men with honours, as is done abroad; and referred to Goldsmith's famous saying, that it would be like giving a person ruffles who had no shirt! He held that more substantial rewards were preferable, and so far acted upon this principle when Fetherstonhaugh, as to grants pensions to Southey, Wordsworth, Taylor, Hood, and several other eminent writers. Perhaps he could not do more.—ED. L. G.

royal favour, the whole class was elevated and complimented in that act. . . . In my opinion it is proper that literary and scientific men of merit should receive the occasional aids which they require, and be honoured with the conventional distinctions which are established in a monarchy. I think that those rewards should be conferred only by the Crown; and that unless there is suspicion of abuse in the exercise of the power of the Crown, it should not be questioned in this House; still less should these rewards and distinctions be conferred by the majority of this House."

It has not done it yet. We close with Sir Robert's panegyric upon the engine, so wonderfully and utterly neglected—viz., THE PRESS:—

"Of all the phenomena of civilized society, I doubt whether there is anything more remarkable than the mode in which the people of this country are supplied with intelligence. It is one of the most wonderful instances in which, without the intervention of government, merely by dint of private exertion and expense, the public is supplied from all parts of the globe with that intelligence, the possession of which constitutes one of the greatest sources of national amusement and instruction. Some say that the press of this country is less eminent in point of intellect and ability than that of other countries. I do not entertain that opinion. Of course, in the free discussion of political questions there will always be much of acrimony, of personal comment and reproach; but, upon the whole, comparing the press of this country to that of France or the United States, or to the press as it exists in any other country, or ever did exist, it is a remarkable instance of ability and intelligence, of readiness, of application in the mode in which the public intelligence is procured through the intervention of private men, and is a most remarkable instance of the application of capital."

LOWER CLASSES IN HUNGARY.

The War in Hungary. By Max Schlesinger. Translated by J. E. Taylor. Edited by F. Pulsky. 2 vols. Bentley.

ANOTHER, and another still, shall we say, succeeds? In one sense, they do; how in another, we cannot tell; but only that we should be well content to have no other account of this war to review for some years to come. The present version is all for Kosuth, and Bem, and Dembinski, the Magyars and the Poles; and fierce against Austria and all her adherents and allies. The infernal cruelties exercised on both sides are repeated; aggravated on the one hand, and palliated on the others. The battles, &c., are described in a similar spirit, and, in short, this work may be opposed to that from the same publisher and noticed on the next page. So, having heard all sides, we must leave the reader to determine that to which he is inclined to give the greatest quantity of truth and the smallest quantity of falsehood.

For ourselves and the author, we shall be content to quote his description of some of the lower native Hungarian classes, who, he says, gave valuable aid to the armed forces:—

"The Csikos is a man who from his birth, some how or other, finds himself seated upon a foal. Instinctively the boy remains fixed upon the animal's back, and grows up in his seat as other children do in the cradle. The thing sounds incredible, and I hope my reader will not take what I say *au pied de la lettre*: nevertheless he may remember that the head of Napoleon's son slipped at his birth into the crown of Rome, and that he grew up with it on, tall and stout. It may be a matter for reflection,

whether a careful father in our days would not do better to put a horse between the legs of his newborn son, than a crown upon his head.

"The young Csikos soon feels himself at his ease on his cradle: whether he is suckled by a human nurse or a mare, is a point upon which naturalists are not quite agreed; according to the latest investigation, he feeds, immediately after his birth, on bacon, bread, and wine. The boy grows by degrees to a big horse-herd. To earn his livelihood he enters the service of some nobleman, or of the Government, who possess in Hungary immense herds of wild horses. These herds range over a tract of many German square miles,—for the most part some level plain, with wood, marsh, heath, and moorland. They rove about where they please, multiply, and enjoy freedom of existence. Nevertheless it is a common error to imagine that these horses, like a pack of wolves in the mountains, are left to themselves and nature, without any care or thought of man. Wild horses, in the proper sense of the term, are in Europe at the present day only met with in Bessarabia; whereas the so-called wild herds in Hungary may rather be compared to the animals ranging in our large parks, which are attended to and watched. The deer are left to the illusion that they enjoy the most unbounded freedom; and the deer-stalker, when in pursuit of his game, readily gives in to the same illusion. Or, to take another simile, the reader has only to picture to himself a well-constituted free state,—whether a republic or a monarchy is all one.

"The Csikos has the difficult task of keeping a watchful eye upon these herds. He knows their strength, their habits, the spots they frequent; he knows the birthday of every foal, and when the animal, fit for training, should be taken out of the herd. He has then a hard task upon his hands, compared with which a Grand-Ducal wild-boar hunt is child's play; for the horse has not only to be taken alive from the midst of the herd, but of course safe and sound in wind and limb. For this purpose the celebrated whip of the Csikos serves him: probably at some future time a few splendid specimens of this instrument will be exhibited in the Imperial Arsenal at Vienna, beside the sword of Scanderberg and the Swiss 'morning-stars.'

His use of it like a lasso in catching wild horses is described at length; and it is added:

"A cursory description of such a horse-chase is enough to show that it is not unattended with danger. It requires unconquerable perseverance and dexterity, a giant's arm and a giant's body, a degree of courage not met with every day, and the most extraordinary powers of horsemanship. But the greater the danger the more alluring is the hope of victory. A bold Csikos is held in the same respect upon the heath as the bold chamois-hunter in the mountains. Ay, and he gets paid for his trouble,—yearly a shirt, a pair of linen trowsers, free board and lodging, a small cask of wine, and twenty Vienna florins in ready cash. This is no trifle; but at the same time he occasionally earns a little by horse-dealing in the village, lightens the purse of some horse-stealer, whom he catches and strikes dead, or, failing in this, he himself steals a horse and sells it. This is not a man born to beg."

"The German newspapers gave accounts of 40,000 Csikoses having served in the Hungarian army; this number is certainly exaggerated; but that a few thousand such daring, mounted fellows, can do an immense deal of mischief, will be readily testified by every Austrian officer who has had the good fortune to come into close contact with them.

"The foot soldier who has discharged his musket is lost when opposed to the Csikos. His bayonet, with which he can defend himself against the Uhlan and Hussars, is here of no use to him: all his practised manoeuvres and skill are unavailable against the long whip of his enemy, which drags him to the ground, or beats him to death with its leaden buttons; nay, even if he had still a charge in his musket, he could sooner hit a bird on the



wing than the Csikos,—who riding round and round him in wild bounds, dashes with his steed first to one side, then to another, with the speed of lightning, so as to frustrate any aim. The horse-soldier, armed in the usual manner, fares not much better, and woe to him if he meets a Csikos singly! better to fall in with a pack of ravenous wolves.³

The next class is,—

"The Kanasz (or swineherd), whose occupation, everywhere unpoetical and dirty, is doubly troublesome and dirty in Hungary. Large droves of pigs migrate annually into the latter country from Serbia, where they still live in a half-wild state. In Hungary they fatten in the extensive oak-forests, and are sent to market in the large towns, even to Vienna, and still further. The task of driving the animals is shared by the Kanasz, (several of whom have to attend each drove,) his dog, and his ass. The jackass heads the drove, bearing a large bell round his neck, like the bell-wether of a flock, and carrying the provisions of the driver on his back. The dogs—of a handsome and strong race, called the white Hungarian wolf-dog—run incessantly round and round the drove, and keep the pigs together. Whenever the Kanasz wishes to rest, he makes a signal to the dogs, when they fasten and hang upon the ears of the jackass, so that he can proceed no further, but stands there, with his uncomfortable ear-drops and his woebegone face, a veritable picture of misery.

"It is a true enjoyment to live in these shady forests. The oak attains a finer and more luxuriant growth on the Hungarian soil than in any part of Germany. The hogs find food in profusion, and commonly stuff themselves to such a degree that they lose all desire for roving about; so that dog, master, and ass, lead a comparatively easy life, and are left to the quiet enjoyment of nature. But the lot of the Kanasz is a pitiable one when, at the close of summer, he has to drive his swine to market. From Debreczin, nay, even from the Serbian frontier, he has to make a journey on foot more toilsome than was ever undertaken by the most adventurous traveller, pacing slowly over the interminable heaths in rain, storm, or under a burning sun, behind his pigs, which drive into his face hot clouds of dust. Every now and then a hog has stuffed itself so full as to be unable to stir from the spot, and there it lies on the road without moving, whilst the whole caravan is obliged to wait for half a day or longer, until the glutted animal can get on his legs again; and when at length this feat is accomplished, frequently his neighbour begins the same trick. There is truly not a more toilsome business in the wide world than that of a Kanasz.

"The man, however, becomes reconciled by habit to what seems intolerable; he eats his bacon and smokes his pipe in the heat of the sun with equal composure as in the depth of winter, wrapt in his sheepskin dress, and satisfied with his own thoughts. Should he happen to fall out with himself and quarrel with his fate, he and his comrades kill a fat pig out of the drove, and treat themselves to a rich repast. The skin he takes back to his master, telling him that the animal died on the journey.

"In the forests the Kanasz occasionally appears in the character of a *dilettante* robber, by way of diversion; but if caught and convicted by the authorities of the next village, he is usually hung up to the branch of some tree at the entrance of the forest in which he has committed the offence."

The Gulyas, or oxherd, is another specimen, but not so remarkable; yet,—

"The territory of the Gulyas is restricted to the pasturage of the Heath, especially the country around Debreczin and Grosswardein. Here he is lord and master, and with his broad-horned subjects, rules over a district whose area is at least three times that of many a sovereign Principality in Germany. Once a week the Gulyas receives provisions from his master, for which purpose he makes his appearance regularly on Saturday at the

same hour, at the same well. By day and night the heavens are his timepiece.

"A marked characteristic of the Gulyas is the iron pot which he has always hanging at his belt. In this he cooks his meat, which he cuts up into small pieces and prepares in a savoury way with some broth and paprika, or Turkish pepper. This is the famous Gulyas-meat, which is occasionally found in eating-houses in civilized parts both in and out of Hungary, but which is nowhere cooked in such perfection as in the flesh-pot of the Oxherd on the heath."

In conclusion:—

"We must not omit to mention the Halasz, a class of fishermen,—a strong, robust race, who live together in single huts, or in villages, on the banks of the Theiss, and lead a truly amphibious life. The pontoon corps of the Hungarian army was principally composed of these men, who introduced the cask-bridges, which the Austrians at first affected so much to ridicule, but to which eventually their heavy and expensive pontoon-train everywhere yielded.

"The classes of men we have here described are all of the pure Magyar race. They are not genuine *proletaires*; but having little to lose, and a martial spirit, they gladly joined the ranks to fight for their beloved country. Taken together they formed a considerable part of the Hungarian army; and although they may not present the most amiable specimens of a civilized community, yet at periods of history like the present, the mere strength and stature of such men were of great service in the field."

Adventures and Anecdotes of the South Army of the Emperor of Austria, during the late Hungarian Campaign. By an Eye-witness. Bentley.

THERE is some novelty in this volume, and especially as regards the military operations of the army designated in the title-page, and relating to which we have had less detailed intelligence than the other portions of the war have supplied. As a contribution to the history of this great struggle, it is deserving of public attention; but perhaps its more popular features will be the description of life in the Austrian army, and biographical sketches of the leading men among the insurrectionary chiefs,—Görgey, Kossuth, Klapka, Pulsky, Bem, the Bathyanys, Perezel, Dembinski, Mézárós, and others. His opinion of Görgey is very favourable, and of Kossuth the reverse; but all is written in moderation, and we think the volume as interesting as any that has appeared on the subject.

ENGLISH SOCIETY.

Social Position. A Satire. Pickering.

THE writer, a comprehensive reader, and well acquainted with good authors in classic and modern language, has produced a Satire, perhaps too temperate, and with too little of the pungent and personal in it, to please the many; but which is ably descriptive of the struggles for wealth and station, which now almost entirely occupy the mercantile people of England. The Go-a-head of America is not the Lag-behind in Britain; and we must be content to witness nobler sentiments succumb to the increased and increasing prevalence of the Mammon worship. There is no one to break into pieces the Golden Calf of our age. Of his theme the writer says,—

"Are subjects wanting? ready victims rise;
Its fools peculiar, every age supplies,
As each new year finds rags for its own Guys."

He then contrasts the prudent with the

imprudent man, and the unfortunate with the "respectable" which money makes, no matter for antecedents or present means. Of the latter, the following is a portion of the sketch:—

"Should this wife fail, the time of mourning reckoned,
Decent he doubles it, and takes a second;
It were not wise in passionate regret,
To waste the prime of life remaining yet;
In the mean while his temperate sorrows wear
Disciplined resignation's reverent air.
In his affairs no detail-hating passions
Precipitate, derange his calculations.
His plans arranged, reviewed, and re-reviewed,
Adjust themselves in 'happiest attitude.'^{*}
Hence springs the cheerful aspect, and the eye
Beaming and soft with self complacency;
Till inward satisfaction sheds a balm,
Almost resembling genuine Virtue's calm:
His glowing face gives flavour to the glass,
And makes the dinner party smoothly pass;
While his strong nerves, gently relaxed, attest
The wholesome joy of seeing others blast;
And, free from all distemperature of mind,
He really feels at peace with all mankind;
Nay, e'en responsive to their warm caress
Drops, one by one, his little meannesses.
Watchful of times and seasons, prosperous, wise,
Blandly propitiating envious eyes,
Why such an one can scarcely help, but rise;
To high position men his right confess,
And gradually won, rejoice in his success."

Another bit of portraiture tempts us to copy it as a second specimen:—

"In public bearing still how many seem
Possessed with concentrated self-esteem,
There's scarce a tidy clerk, but has the science
To look a cool contempt, or scowl defiance,
To enter vehicles, and boldly stare
At the innocuous beings seated there,
And last, by way of challenge, hum an air.
 Himself disgusted if he can't succeed
In quite astounding you, like Gorgon's head.
The contumelious face of late has been
A stamp so current on our younger men,
That we esteem it as some special grace,
To see an open, honest, smiling face.
But things of flimsy texture must have starch,
What cheaper than a scowl, and a moustache?
'Tis hard to tell the dung-hill from the game,
The style, with men of mode, being much the same;
So here we'll e'en take Lords and Clerks together,
Because it seems of small importance, whether
Lords taught assuming arrogance its frown,
Or borrowed it,—to keep assumption down.

Snobs and snobbishness are next paraded, but at too much length for us, and we will close with a more general quotation:—

"Then wealth will forward push, and make its way,
And get itself received, as best it may;
And its acquisition, often of a kind
Ill fitted to improve the heart or mind:
In its best phases grant it, if you will,
Energy, boldness, honour, foresight, skill;
Yet must it with suspicion arm its eyes,
And off release the lenient compunction;
Dare to offend, to hold at will the hand,
And make, unfaltering make, the full demand;
Must learn the sight of suffering to endure,
Liberal it may be, it must be secure.
But these are daily fewer, warmer glows
The strife, as wider competition grows.
Early from School the Sire snatches the Son,
Ere taste for mental culture has begun,
As wishing to exclude all loves but one.
A mind informed might guard and help the heart,
If not thus early driven to the mart,
But now, 'tis all to get a speedy start.
"If wealth is purchased at the heart's expense,
With loss of a diffused intelligence,
Scantily meeting out, or leaving dry
The streams which nourish genuine courtesy,
We need not greatly wonder, if we trace
In its expenditure, some lack of grace.
"Endless its affectations, and pretences,
When first its act of 'Gentleman' commences;
Whether, like Liverpool magnifico,
Loath from the scenes of its success to go;
Its humbler friends admitting less and less,
Affecting an absurd exclusiveness,
For fifty Peers well able to provide
With frippery their halls, their hearts with pride:

* "The gayest happiest attitude of things."
Akenside, P. of I.

Or possibly, called to misrepresent
Its native city's sense in Parliament;
To shield a school boy's general ignorance,
It keeps some local topic in advance;
Whereon, should ministers make bland appeal*
Behold 'the Macedonian and the steel.'

"Or, it may seem expedient to retire
Near some small borough, and affect the Squire,
(As slopes, in rivers seen, appear to be
As large as great three-masters viewed at sea,) Slang of the landed, with its talk to mix,
Call horses, cattle, and fine elms, tall sticks;
To stand, not kneel, in pew which should be square
And wield a double-handed book of prayer.
And when its rustic diversions cease,
It may, too, if appointed 'of the peace,'
Law, like a Becket miracles dispense,
Where the wrong head gets all the reverence;†
So gradually office, wealth, and pew,
Left it above the rank of parvenu."

After these samples we need hardly add, that approving of the good sense and moral lessoning of the author, there are faults in rhythm and rhyme which we might critically censure, but which will strike the poetic reader sufficiently without our aid.

BOTANY.

The Tourist's Flora; a Descriptive Catalogue of the Flowering Plants and Ferns of the British Islands, France, Germany, Switzerland, Italy, and the Italian Islands. By Joseph Woods, F.L.S., &c. Reeve, Benham, and Reeve.

Mr. Woods is well known to our scientific readers as a sound and able botanist, of retired and studious habits, indefatigable and enthusiastic in the pursuit of his favourite study, but yet precise and accurate in his observations. These qualities have made him an authority in those departments of botany to which his attention has been more particularly directed.

The present publication is the result of many years' travel in remote districts of the countries and islands enumerated on the title-page, comprising nearly the whole of western and central Europe, and of subsequent careful investigation in the quiet of home. Its object, and the means adopted to carry it out, shall be stated by the author in his own words:—

"The intention of the work is to enable the lover of botany to determine the names of any wild plant he may meet with when journeying in the British islands, France, Germany, Switzerland, and Italy. To accomplish this object, I had to keep in view two important particulars—to make the descriptions clear and distinctive, and at the same time to condense the whole, so that the work might be comprised in a single volume of a bulk not inconvenient for the use of the traveller. The former object I have used no small pains to attain; in the first place, by taking care, if by any means I could accomplish it, that my characters should always contain a difference at least sufficient to discriminate the plant from all others contained in the work. To this end I have been in the habit, in all the larger genera, of forming for myself an analysis of the genus; taking successively the most important characters, and dividing and subdividing them till I arrived at the species. When I could not succeed in this, I have taken each species in order, and compared it with those that follow;

* "Ubi Gordius nodus, ibi ille Macedo et ensis."

** Inscription on the tomb of Vladislaus Loketer, first King of Poland.—*Kohl's Austria.*"

† "The gold from Becket's shrine alone filled two chests—another was discovered, for the skull was found with the rest of the skeleton in his grave, though another head had been produced to work miracles, as his, in the Church."

—*Book of the Church, Chap. XII.*

"It must be done I find it in the book;

And yet not I myself,....

I keep a clerk to do those jobs for need."

—*Middleton's Mayor of Quinborough.*"

desirous that some character, good or bad, should serve to mark some sort of distinction."

An arduous and laborious task, assuredly, but most judiciously has the author performed it. We have some experience of the information most desirable to enable the tourist to discover the name of any wild plant he may meet in his way, and have no hesitation in assuring him that he will find it all accurately arranged, systematised, and indexed for him in this octavo volume, an inconsiderable addition to even his carpet-bag.

The author has attained so desirable an end by a careful and elegant typographical arrangement, and the adoption of a system of abbreviation, we might almost call it cypher, by which no single letter that could be spared is retained. The work is rendered more complete and useful by an explanation of the abbreviations used, and a full index, extending to upwards of seventy pages, by means of which any portion of the book can be instantly referred to.

We must not close our notice without calling attention to the effective use which has been made of black letter. It not only directs the eye to the generic or specific name sought, but it is made of great use in the arrangement of the various minute divisions and subdivisions of the catalogue. In fact, the book has evidently been a labour of love. No pains have been spared to send it forth as complete and useful as possible, and we feel convinced that all travelling botanists will be grateful to Mr. Woods for the *Tourist's Flora*.

ASSYRIAN HISTORY.

Vaux's Nineveh and Persepolis.

(Second Notice—Conclusion.)

We regret that the great press of matter should so long have delayed the second notice of this interesting and compendious work, which we now resume with pleasure, confining ourselves especially to the second division of the subject mentioned in the title—the more recent discoveries in the country of Nineveh and Persepolis. However important the explorations of ancient travellers may be, they lead us to no definite result, and serve little more than the purpose of fixing the external condition of the mounds which contain the antiquities lately brought to light, and of those exposed to view at an early period. The state of the country, the greater difficulties of communication in former ages, but, above all, that most cogent of all reasons, the *mancanza di fondi*, led travellers to content themselves with the relation of what they saw, and with such small relics as chance threw in their way without the danger, labour, or expense of excavation. But now two governments have taken up the cause of literature and antiquity, and great results are naturally to be expected. The French government granted a munificent sum of money for the purpose of exploring the upper portion of Mesopotamia, which the present government, republican though it be, has materially increased. The English government granted a niggardly sum, doled out as King John's Jew parted with his money, at the expense of his teeth; but it had a willing man at command, whose enthusiasm carried him on, and which it condescended to employ instead of capital. Let us then ask, Is Great Britain obliged to her own expen-

iture for the possession of the treasures she has accumulated, or has she half stolen them from a private gentleman? We incline to the latter view; and our readers may probably agree with us when we assert, that the £6000*l.* judged a minimum by the British Museum, became the subject of a Whig division by two, with a condition subtractive, that it should not be expended in less than two years, lest, forsooth, so heavy a draft, suddenly falling on the exchequer, should disturb Sir Charles Wood's estimates of the year! But what reward, what portion of this sum was set aside to indemnify an energetic and learned man for passing these two last years in the midst of fever, and antagonistic tribes of Arabs? Out of what fund were his private expenses to be defrayed? We answer, none; he is to live, and does live, at his own cost and charge, and is even put to personal expense connected with the undertaking, not to mention the wear and tear of constitution, and more dangerous casualties. Will no one in the House of Commons ask the Chancellor of the Exchequer this question? Will no one be induced to doubt the truth of our statement, and get a public and official contradiction of it? But we will ask, Is it dignified, is it grateful, is it right, that the nation should become the debtor of an individual?—that the master should refuse to reimburse his servant for his labour, capacity, and intelligence? Lastly, does Great Britain deserve such a man? Had he been a native of France, what could he not have accomplished! But truly Anacreon says that Nature's gifts are divided,—

φύσις κέρατα ταύροι,
όπλα δ' ἔδωκεν ἄποις,
ποδωκίνη λαγωδίαι,
λέουσι χόσμι οδόντον,
τοῖς ἰχθύσιν τὸ ητράκον,
τοῖς ὄρνεοις πέτασθαι,
τοῖς ἀνδράσιν φόρονμα
γυναιξὶν οὐκέτ' εἰχέν
τι οὐν; δίδωσι κάλλος
ἀν' ἀσπιδῶν ἀπασῶν,
ἀν' ἔγχεων ἀπάτων
κινά δὲ καὶ σιδήρου
καὶ τῷρ καλὴ τις οὐσα.

France tries to accomplish by her money what Great Britain has done by her man; as Napoleon endeavoured to accomplish by his men what Great Britain ultimately succeeded in by her money.

In the year 1843, M. Botta was appointed French consul at Mosul, and as it may be conceived that the interests of France afforded small scope for the energies of an enterprising commercial government agent in such a remote and inaccessible country, the consul turned his interference to matters connected with the Roman Catholic faith, being himself a member of the *propaganda fidei*; indeed all the French commercial agents in Turkey were at that period mere Catholic missionaries, with the exception perhaps of those in ports where there was French commerce. The collision into which M. Botta came on religious questions with the natives, on account of the failure on the part of France to force transubstantiation, *agni Dei*, and propaganda tracts down the throats of the Chaldeans, induced the consul to turn his attention to antiquities, and he consequently began to excavate at Koyunjik, and subsequently at Khorsabad; but here

again religion, or rather superstitious bigotry, as, or more virulent than that which his own government was supporting, rose up in antagonism against him, and prevented him during a long period from prosecuting his researches, or seriously crippled his endeavours; hence we are the more indebted to M. Botta for his perseverance and pertinacity, and for the valuable records, and especially the inscriptions, which he has disinterred, and caused to be safely transmitted to Europe.

But let us see what Mr. Vaux says upon this subject; speaking of Layard, our author says:—

"On his return from Mosul, after his tour among the Chaldeans, Mr. Layard found letters from England, announcing that Sir Stratford Canning had presented to the nation the sculptures which had hitherto been excavated at his expense, and that the British Museum had received a small sum of money for the continuation of the researches commenced at Nimroud. The sum voted was small, and unworthy of the nation, which ought to have been but too ready to support the exertions of a traveller so accomplished as Mr. Layard; and the generous liberality of the French government in the remuneration of M. Botta, for his diligence in securing for France the sculptures at Khorsabad, and the zeal with which the literary men of that country joined together to urge on the government the necessity of active measures to remove the precious relics ere weather or accident should have injured them, contrasts ill with the niggard hand whereby money was wrung from the public purse in England, for what well deserved to be esteemed a great national work."

This niggardness has lately only led to the most annoying results; one of the bulls, of the transmission of which we have received information by the last mail, has been broken in two in the course of an inundation, and the nose of the other has been mutilated, only from the inadequacy of the means at Mr. Layard's command, whereas both would long ago have been at Bussora in the favourable season.

M. Botta, then, was the first who seriously entertained the idea of excavating in Mesopotamia; but it was neither safe nor possible for him to attack the mounds which Layard has identified, and then pointed out to him as being most probably those of Nineveh. He confined himself first to the mound of Koyunjik, and afterwards attacked Khorsabad, which, according to the opinion of Rawlinson, appears to have been built subsequently to the elder Assyrian cities which again had risen upon the ruins of the more ancient empires. The mode in which M. Botta conducted his discoveries is most interesting, and identical with that subsequently pursued by Layard, namely, by sinking a well into the mound until some obstruction should be met with; this, and a judicious system of trenches, has been pursued by both these excavators, and has answered in all respects the requirements of literature and antiquarian research.

The latter part of Mr. Vaux's work is occupied with the monuments of the Persian period after the extinction of the Assyrian dynasties, when the race of Persian or Medo-Persian kings had succeeded to the older empires of Mesopotamia. The most remarkable of these monuments is that of Behistun, and this is the first upon which Major Rawlinson exhibited his wonderful gift of decipherment, which will be found, on reference, in the Journal of the Asiatic Society of 1845, where the Major

gives a detailed account of the mode in which he made the discovery, translating the Behistun monument, which the care of its sculptors had saved from the destroying hand of time and the surrounding barbarian nations, and which he accompanies, after the Hamiltonian system, by a literal Latin translation. On this subject Mr. Vaux says:—

"The position of Behistun," says Major Rawlinson, "has in all ages been well known; on the high road from Babylon to the eastward, it must have always attracted the attention of travellers. Its imposing aspect, too, an almost perpendicular rock, rising abruptly from the plain to the height of 1700 feet, and its aptitude for holy purposes, would not be neglected by a race who made

"Their altars the high places, and the peaks
Of Earth o'ergazing mountains."

Known to the Greek by the name of *Bayioravov*, a name derived from the old Persian Baghistan, it was sacred to Jupiter, whose temple stood upon the top of it, or, as Major Rawlinson has suggested, to Hormazd, as chief of the Bagas or supreme deity; and the description which Diidorus Siculus has given us from Ctesias, resembles so remarkably the actual existing state of Behistun, that we can have no doubt of its identity. According to his account, Queen Semiramis marched a large army into Baghistan, and encamped near the Mountain of Baghistan. On the plain below the hill she laid out a paradise or park twelve stadia in circuit, which was watered by a copious stream. * * * The lower part of the precipitous rock she scarped, and caused her own image and those of 100 of her guards, to be sculptured on its face, with an inscription in Syrian characters (Diod. ii.) * * * The precipitous rock," says Major Rawlinson, in the Journal of the Royal Geological Society, vol. ix., "17 stadia high, facing the garden, the large spring gushing out from the foot of the precipice and watering the adjoining plain, and the smoothing of the lower part of the rock, all convey an accurate idea of the present appearance of Bisutun. But what can we say of the sculptures of Semiramis and the inscription in Syrian characters? There are only two tablets at Bisutun; the one nearly destroyed, which contains a Greek inscription declaring it to be the work of Gotarzes, and the other a Persepolitan sculpture, which is adorned by nearly 1000 lines of cuneiform character."

It is presumable that the statue, and what Isidore of Charax calls the pillar of Semiramis, made way for the thirteen figures at a later period, as it is impossible to imagine that any one who had seen this monument, or was even tolerably well-informed, could have mistaken thirteen figures for one hundred, and the chief male figure for that of a female.

"Darius died, leaving the great palace of Persepolis in an unfinished state; the completion of that pile is due to his successor, Xerxes. The only edifice upon the great platform which can be definitely assigned to the former monarch, is the elevated building immediately south of the colonnade. At the pillared hall of audience would seem to be the work for which the platform was originally designed, Major Rawlinson conjectures, as we have stated, that this may also owe its origin to Darius, though this is by no means certain. The magnificent portals, the sculptured staircase, the palace at the south-western corner of the platform, are unquestionably to be assigned to Xerxes, and as he alludes in one of his inscriptions to a multitude of similar architectural achievements, it is not improbable that he may have constructed several of the minor edifices, of which the foundations only are now to be seen. Numerous as are the legends in this building, they will be found to consist of only two varieties—the one which, with its Median and Babylonian transcripts, may have been repeated at least twenty times when the building was complete, is still to be traced with more or less

distinctness in twelve different places, and is merely an abridged statement of the titles of Xerxes; the other occurring on two high pilasters in the interior of the edifice, and of more importance, in that it distinctly assigns to the same monarch the construction of the palace. There are several other inscriptions, but we do not think that there is sufficient independent interest in any of them to make it worth while to transcribe them."

We must refer our readers to Mr. Vaux's work itself for a history of the discovery of this lost language; and the highest praise is due to our author for the perspicuous way in which he has laid it before the public, collecting all the information on this subject into a connected narrative, from the first discoveries of Grotefend to the crowning effort of Rawlinson. It is much to be regretted that the superstition attaching to Nebbi Yunus, on account of the supposition of its being the burial-place of the prophet Jonah, who, together with Mohammed and Christ, form the prophetic triumvirate of the Moslem creed, will probably prevent its examination; and there, Rawlinson is of opinion, the most valuable records lie concealed; indeed, that scholar asserts that this is the most ancient part of Nineveh, in fact the original city, of which the others were either suburbs or offsets. But we must not revert to a period we have passed, but continue in the Persian era.

"The famous trilingual inscription of Cyrus the Great," says Major Rawlinson, "which still survives upon a ruined pilaster at Murgab, is the most ancient monument of its class. In the two short lines of Persian writing that are here met with, we have only, it is true, eleven distinct characters, but it is not to be supposed that the alphabet was left in a doubtful or incomplete condition. Perhaps excavations among the ruins of greater length and variety will be found, and the claim of Cyrus may thus be verified to be considered the inventor of a perfect alphabet. No records have yet been discovered of Cambyses; and if any works of the class were executed during the short reign of the Magian impostor, they were no doubt destroyed on the recovery of the throne by Darius, the son of Hystaspes. To this monarch, insatiable in his thirst of conquest, magnificent in his tastes, and possessed of an unlimited power, we are indebted for all that is most valuable in the Palaeography of Persia. Imbued as it appears with an ardent passion for monumental fame, he was not content to inscribe the palaces of his foundation at Persepolis with a legend commemorative of their erection, or with prayers invoking the guardianship of Ormazd and his angels, but he lavished an elaborate workmanship on historic and geographic records in various quarters of his empire, which evince considerable political forethought, an earnest regard for truth, and an ambition, natural and hardly to be quarrelled with, to transmit the glories of his reign to future generations, to guide their conduct, and invite their emulation. At Persepolis, in the high place of Persian power, he aspired to elevate the moral feelings of his countrymen, and to secure their future dominancy in Asia, by ostentatiously displaying to them their superiority over the feudatory provinces of the Empire. While upon the sacred rock of Baghistan, he addressed himself, in the style of an historian, to collect the genealogical traditions of his race, to describe the extent and power of his kingdom, and to relate, with a perspicuous brevity worthy of imitation, the leading incidents of his reign. We are hardly prepared, indeed, in the narrative of an Eastern despot, to meet with the dignified simplicity, and truthfulness, and self-denial, which characterise this curious record. His grave relation of the means by which, under the care and favour of a beneficent Providence, the crown of

Persia first fell into his hands; and the manner in which he subsequently established his authority by the successive overthrow of the rebels who opposed him, contrasts most strongly but most favourably with the usual emptiness of Oriental hyperbole. In addition to these inscriptions at Persepolis and Behistun, we have another record of the royalty of Darius at Hamadan; and the extensive tablets at Naksh-i-Rustam, which have been lately copied, contain further particulars of his descent and territorial acquisitions, together with a last solemn address to the nationality of his countrymen, inscribed by way of epitaph on his rock-hewn sepulchre. The numerous inscriptions of Darius add twenty-five letters of the Persian alphabet to the eleven already obtained from the solitary tablet of Cyrus; and from their great extent and the variety of matter which they embrace, they enable us also to obtain a very tolerable insight into the orthographical and grammatical structure of the ancient Persian language."

The justice of the remark is proved by the late publications of Major Rawlinson, to whose large work the learned public must look forward with that anxiety which attends a new discovery, and which cannot be surpassed even by the nervous excitement which prevailed lately, both on the part of the ministers and their expectant successors, during the debate on Mr. Roebeck's motion.

We defer further remarks for the second edition of this work.

SOUTHEYANA.

The Life and Correspondence of the Late Robert Southey.

Second Notice—Conclusion.

THE GRIDIRON, with a notice of which we closed our last, and now published for the first time in the Appendix, is so pleasant an example of Southey's dicta, that we cannot refrain from copying a portion of its mock-heroic :—

"Brolling is best; from Jove begin the strain,
High-thundering Jupiter, to whom belong
The Gridiron and the song.

Whence came the glorious Gridiron upon earth?
O daughter of Mnemosyne, relate

When, where, and how the idea uncreate,
That from all ages in the all-teenning mind

Had slept confined,

Received in happy hour its formal birth.

Say, Muse, for thou canst tell

What'er to gods or men in earliest days best :

Nor hath Oblivion in her secret cell,

Wherein with miserly delight

For aye by stealth

She heaps her still accumulating wealth,

Aught that is hidden from thy searching sight."

JOVE AND THE GODS, &c., VISIT BRITAIN, AND ARE SERVED WITH BEEF:—

"The chief

Of gods and men approving view'd

The Britons and their beef;

His head ambrosial in benignant mood

He bent, and with a jocund aspect blest

The brave Boophaigi, and told them broil'd was best."

The father of the gods invents and commands the gridiron, and by other divine powers and agencies broils the steak. Dolly, the cook, is also brain or heaven-born, like Pallas. Potatoes and porter are added, and the repast is complete. The following ought to be set to music for the famous Steak Club:—

"Now the perfect Steak prepare!
Now the appointed rites begin!
Cut it from the plumpid rump,
Not too thick and not too thin;
Somewhat to the thick inclining,
Yet the thick and thin between,
That the gods, when they are dining,
May command the golden mean.
Ne'er till now have they been blest
With a beef-steak duly drest:
Ne'er till this auspicious morn
When the Gridiron was born."

And the description of the Stout in the good old times ought to be remembered now by brewers with their tremendous profits:—

"The rock with porter flow'd.

Not such as porter long hath been

In these degenerate days, I ween;

But such as oft, in days of yore,

Dean of St. Peter's, in thy yard,

Though doors were double lock'd and barr'd,

I quaff'd as I shall quaff no more;

Such as loyal Whitbread old,

Father of the brewers bold,

From his ample casks prefer'd

When he regaled the King, the good King George the Third.

* * * *

Far more than silver or than gold

The honest pewter pot he prized,

And drank his porter galvaniz'd.

* * * *

Teetotallers avaut, and ye who feed,
Like grubs and snails, on root, or stem, or weed;

Nor think

That by such diet and such drink

Britain should rule the main."

In the few additional subjoined playful examples we are obliged to omit a very amusing account of his being dubbed LL.D. at Oxford.

"Yesterday evening I received 'Roderic, Dernier Roi des Goths, Poème traduit de l'Anglais de Robert Southey, Esq., Poète Laureat, par M. le Chevalier * * *'. Printed at Versailles and published at Paris by Galignani. It was accompanied by a modest and handsome letter from the translator, M. Chevalier de Sagrie, and by another from Madame St. Anne Holmes, the lady to whom it is dedicated. This lady has formerly favoured me with some letters and with a tragedy of hers, printed at Angers. She is a very clever woman, and writes almost as beautiful a hand as Miss Ponsonby of Llangollen. She is rich, and has lived in high life, and writes a great deal about Sheridan, as having been very intimate with him in his latter years. Me, Mr. Bedford, unworthy as I am, this lady has chosen for her *poète favori*, and by her persuasions the Chevalier has translated Roderick into French. This is not all: there is a part of the business which is so truly booksellerish in general, and French in particular, that it would be a sin to withhold it from you, and you shall have it in the very words of my correspondent St. Anne.

"There is one part of the business I cannot pass over in silence: it has shocked me much, and calls for an apology; which is,—'The life of Robert Southey, Esq., P.L.' It never could have entered my mind to be guilty of, or even to sanction, such an impertinence. But the fact is this, the printer and publisher, Mr. Le Bel, of the Royal Printing-office Press in Versailles (printers, by-the-bye, are men of much greater importance here than they are in England) insisted upon having the life. He said the French know nothing of M. Southey, and in order to make the work sell, it must be managed to interest them for the author. To get rid of his importunities we said we were not acquainted with the life of Mr. Southey. Would you believe it? this was verbatim his answer:—'N'importe! écrivez toujours, brodez! brodez-la un peu, que ce soit vrai ou non ce ne fait rien; qui prendra la peine de s'informer?' Terrified lest this ridiculous man should succeed in his point, I at last yielded, and sent to London to procure *all the lives*; and from them, and what I had heard from my dear departed friend Richard Brinsley Sheridan, we drew up the memoir.'

"Grosvenor, whoever writes my life when the subject has an end as well as a beginning, and does not insert this biographical anecdote in it, may certainly expect that I will pull his ears in a true dream, and call him a jackass.

"The Notice sur M. Southey, which has been thus compounded, has scarcely one single point accurately stated, as you may suppose, and not a few which are ridiculously false. *N'importe*, as M. Le Bel says, I have laughed heartily at the whole translation, and bear the translation with a magnanimity which would excite the astonishment

and envy of Wordsworth if he were here to witness it. I have even gone beyond the Quaker principle of bearing injuries meekly. I have written to thank the inflictor. Happily it is in prose, and the Chevalier has intended to be faithful, and has, I believe, actually abstained from any interpolations. But did you ever hear me mention a fact worthy of notice, which I observed myself,—that wherever a breed of peacocks is spoiled by mixture with a white one, birds that escape the degeneracy in every other part of their plumage show it in the eye of the feather? the fact is very curious; where the perfection of nature's work is required, there it fails. This affords an excellent illustration for the version now before me; everywhere the eye of the feather is defective. It would be impossible more fully to exemplify how completely a man may understand the general meaning of a passage, and totally miss its peculiar force and character.

* * * * *

"Two or three weeks ago, calling at Calvert's, I learnt that Raisley C. had committed the great sin of shooting an owl. The criminality of the act was qualified by an ingenuous confession, that he did not know what it was when he fired at it; the bird was brought in to show us, and then given me that I might show it to your godson, owls and monkeys being of all created things those for which he has acquired the greatest liking from his graphic studies. Home I came with the owl in my hand, and in the morning you would have been well pleased had you seen Cuthbert's joy at recognising, for the first time, the reality of what he sees daily in Bewick or in some other of his books. Wordsworth and his wife were here, and as there was no sin in eating the owl, I ordered it to be dressed and brought in, in the place of game that day at dinner. It was served up without the head, and a squat-looking fellow it was, about the size of a large wild pigeon, but broader in proportion to its length. The meat was more like bad mutton than anything else. Wordsworth was not valiant enough to taste it. Mrs. W. did, and we agreed that there could be no pretext for making owls game and killing them as delicacies. But if ever you eat one, by all means try it boiled, with onion sauce."

In one of the many letters to Grosvenor Bedford, we read:—

"In the evil habit of answering familiar letters, without having them before me, I forgot to notice your question respecting the nitrous oxide; which however I should not have done had the thing been as hopeful as you supposed it to be. What I said was simply this, that the excitement produced by the inhalation was not followed by any consequent debility or exhaustion; on the contrary, that it appeared to quicken all the senses during the remainder of the day. One case occurred in which the gas seemed to produce a good effect upon a palsied patient. A fellow who had lost the use of his hands (a tailor by trade) was so far cured, that he was turned out of the house for picking pockets.

* * * * *

"I have one or two stories which may be versified for you, either as ballads or in some other form, and which will not be too long. Want of room, I am afraid, would apply equally to a life of John Fox, which would better suit the *Quarterly Review*, if Dibdin should bring out his projected edition. Sometimes I think the Bust may afford a subject; but whether it would turn out song or sermon, I hardly know, perhaps both in one."

"Your book is very beautiful. The vignettes are especially clever. Of the prints Sir Walter interests me most for its subject, Pic-a-Back perhaps for its execution. It is the best design I ever saw of Richard Westall's. To make your book complete as exhibiting the art of the age, I should like something from Martin and something from Cruikshank, otherwise I do not see how it could be improved.

* * * * *

"I have two things to tell you, each good in its

kind,—the first relating to the moon, the second to myself.

"It is not likely that you should recollect a poor, harmless, honest old man, who used to deliver the letters when you were at Keswick; Joseph Littledale is his name, and, if you remember him, it will be by a chronic, husky cough, which generally announced his approach. Poor Littledale has this day explained the cause of our late rains, which have prevailed for the last five weeks, by a theory which will probably be as new to you as it is to me. 'I have observed,' he says, 'that, when the moon is turned upward, we have fine weather after it; but, if it is turned down, then we have a wet season; and the reason I think is, that when it is turned down, it holds no water, like a basin, you know, and then down it all comes.' There, Grosvenor, it will be a long while before the march of intellect shall produce a theory as original as this, which I find, upon inquiry, to be the popular opinion here."

To conclude our literary *mélange*, we shall select some specimens of the moral and national opinions.

Moral Sentiments.—"This is both consolatory and certain, that no good man is ever the worse for the trials with which Providence may visit him, and the way in which you regard these afflictions exemplifies this.

The difficulty in finding two hundred subscribers arises from this, my dear Grosvenor, that our friends are never so ready to bestir themselves in our affairs as our enemies. There are half a score persons in the world who would take some pains to serve me; and there are half a hundred who would take a great deal more to injure me. The former would gladly do anything for me which lay in their way; the latter would go *out* of theirs to do anything against me. I do not say this complainingly, for no man was ever less disposed to be querulous; and, perhaps, no one ever had more friends upon whose friendship he might justly pride himself. But it is the way of the world; and the simple reason is, that enmity is a stronger feeling than good will."

On the death of his aged uncle, he tells:—

"It is somewhat remarkable that either on the night before, or after his decease (I am not certain which, but think it was the former), I was very much disturbed throughout the night in dreams concerning him. I seldom remember to have suffered so much in sleep, or to have wept more than I did then, thinking that I saw him, as I had last seen him, bent and suffering, helplessly and hopelessly, and that he reproved or rather reasoned with me for allowing myself to be so affected. This is perfectly explicable; but it impressed me strongly at the time; and if in some of his latter hours his thoughts were directed towards me (as they may have been), I could find a solution which would accord with my philosophy, though it may not be dreamt of in that of other men.

"I have long looked for this event, and however important in one point of view the prolongation of his life might appear, I could not, if wishes or prayers could have done it, have stretched him upon the rack of this world longer.

"There is some comfort in thinking that he now knows, if he never knew it before, how truly I loved and honoured him. I often indulge the belief that towards our dead friends our hearts are open and our desires known."

Political Economy.—"It is not the habit of my mind to despise nor to undervalue the sort of knowledge which I do not possess, but I know enough of political economy to have perceived in the father of the British school (Adam Smith), that the wealth of nations is every thing in that school,—and the morality and happiness of nations nothing; and in the other writers which have fallen in my way I have found their knowledge so little, and their presumption so great, as to excite in me a greater degree of contempt than I usually feel for anything in the shape of a book."

London University and Mechanics' Institutes.—

"The question about National Education you will see discussed in my Colloquies, when they are completed. Here is the gist of the question. The human mind is like the earth, which never lies idle. You have a piece of garden ground. Neglect it, and it will be covered with weeds, useless to yourself and noxious to your neighbours. To lay it out in flowers and shrubbery is what you do not want. Cultivate it then for common fruits and culinary plants. So with poor children. Why should they be made worse servants, worse labourers, worse mechanics, for being taught their Bible, their Christian duties, and the elements of useful knowledge? I am no friend of the London University, nor to Mechanics' Institutes. There is a purpose in all these things of excluding religion, and preparing the way for the overthrow of the Church. But God will confound their devices; and my principle is, that where a religious foundation is laid, the more education the better. Will you have the lower class *Christians or brutes?*

* * * * *

Reforms.—"If our institutions are worth preserving we cannot be attached to them too strongly, remembering always that the only way to preserve them is by keeping them in good repair. The two duties upon which I insist are those of conservation and improvement. We must improve our institutions if we would preserve them; but if any go to work upon the foundations, down must come the building.

"How is it possible to reflect upon the history of former times without inquiring what have been the good and evil consequences of the course which things have taken at the age which you are considering? It is, surely, no useless speculation to inquire whether good results which have been dearly purchased might not have been obtained at less cost. If I were to build a house, I should consult my neighbour, who might tell me how I might go to work more advantageously than he had done. *What might have been* is a profitable subject for speculation, because it may be found useful for what yet may be."

The Bullion Question.—"You cannot hold the Bullion Question in greater abhorrence than I do. It is the worst plague that ever came out of Pandora's Scotch mull. I cannot but think that Government is altogether wrong in abolishing small notes; they should allow of none which have not the stamp of national credit, but without small bills there will be a want of sufficient currency. And as for forgery, Heaven help the wits of those who do not perceive that for one who can forge there will be twenty who can coin. Peel has never recovered the credit with me which he lost by becoming a bullionist; and Ricardo's opinion I hold in so little respect, that I am glad he has not an English name."

This was written in the disastrous year 1826, so fatal to many an industrious man, and so destructive to the fairest prospects of thousands. On emigration, Southey appears prophetic:—

"You seem right in thinking that Upper Canada is the country to which Government should direct such emigrants as may be at its disposal. But when the full necessity of widely colonising shall be generally perceived and felt, I hope something like a spirit of enterprise may be excited in adventurers of the middle and higher ranks, and that men may be found who will be ambitious of founding a settlement and a family in a new world. New Holland is the country for them. I doubt whether all history can supply such another instance of stupid misgovernment as has been exhibited in stocking that country with male convicts, without any reference to the proportion of the sexes. You ought with all speed to ship off 'in good condition' as many female volunteers as the Magdalen, the hospitals, and the streets can supply."

"But I want to hear of colonists of a better stamp than those who are sent abroad by law or driven thither by necessity; and such I think may be

found. It is a matter of necessity to provide an outlet for our overgrown population, who will otherwise soon become the wild beasts of society; but it is a matter of prospective policy, not less important in its consequences, to provide also for the overflow of the educated classes."

SUMMARY.

Half-hours with the Best Authors. Parts I., II. Svo. Knight.

A very cheap issue of a rare miscellany, replete with various intelligence and instruction. There are no less than 192 honestly and judiciously filled pages, issued within eight weeks, and now stitched up into convenient Parts.

Pictorial Half-hours. Part I. The Same. ANOTHER useful re-issue, in which the pictorial and literary labours of the indefatigable editor appear in a new and neat form, for the edification of the unlettered and young.*

Stories from the History of the Reformation.

By the Rev. B. G. Johns. Darton & Co. THE master of Dulwich College Grammar School has here manufactured out of the history of a wonderful man and wonderful times, a series of stories, both in England and on the continent, which must be very attractive to young minds, whilst they collaterally, yet effectively, inculcate the principles of the Protestant Reformation. They are in themselves extremely interesting, and are so far helps to history as well as to morals and religion. It is a first-class volume to be put into the hands of youthful readers, and cannot but improve their minds while it awakens their desire for more ample information.

The Christian Parent. By the Rev. A. B. Muzzey. Hodson.

EARNESTLY inculcates the duties of parents to their children, as, if they fail, there is none else to supply the deficiency. In the course of the essay, many other religious topics connected with the subject and family relations are introduced, and treated with the best intentions, and a generally good tone of feeling and moral instructiveness.

The Bath Waters, &c. By Dr. James Tunstall. Churchill.

A PANEGYRIC upon Bath, medically, economically, and comfortably. The doctor speaks encomiastically of the efficaciousness of the waters for the cure of various diseases, and generally upholds the City of the Sun as deserving of more than its pristine fame as a resort for the invalid or a residence for the healthy independent.

Poems. By Mary Ada King. Hatchards. THE production of a young lady of seventeen, and published from motives of filial piety or family affection. Alas! it is painful, sitting in the critic's chair, to know to a certainty that such things can but lead to vexation of spirit.

Windings on the River of the Water of Life. By G. B. Cheever, D.D. Glasgow and London: Collins.

CHRISTIAN Faith is the soul of this volume, and supported not only by reasoning addressed to its own inherent invulnerability, but also by the argument that Infidelity requires greater faith than Belief does.

* In our last number, the third of Mr. Knight's publications was separated from the above two in making up the paper; see conclusion of Summary.

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

ROMANO-AFRICAN REMAINS.

Temple, 21 July, 1850.

DEAR SIR.—I have the pleasure to forward you a communication just received from Doctor Barth, of Hamburg, dated Mourzuk, the 20th May and 7th June, which you are at liberty to publish.—I am, &c., Patrick Colquhoun, Dr.

Mourzuk, the 26th May, 1850.

MY DEAR SIR.—Before I leave this place, which I trust will be in about eight days, I think it my duty to send you my respects, in order to show you that you are not forgotten. We are here most comfortably in the house of Mr. Gagliuffi, who was very glad to receive some lines from his fellow-lodger in Stambul. Indeed, if it were not for the comforts we enjoy in the vice-consul's house, the staying in this sultry place would be very disagreeable.

I hope that you have heard, from time to time, how our expedition is going on; that our progress is not quicker, is not my fault. Knowing that you are a good scholar, and fancying that you will take some interest in the subject, I make use of this opportunity for sending you a short account of the Roman ruins we found in the place called *Ghareea el gharbea*.

This is a village with a small plantation of date-trees, situated $\frac{1}{2}$ E. M., south from Tripoli, on the western road to Mourzuk, and at the beginning of a most monotonous stony plain, which extends for six days' journey southward, and in much larger dimension to the south-west; though it is not a plateau as we call it, but merely the naked surface of the desert, in which nature has not made those depressions, called Uâdees, where by the removal of the superincumbent limestone strata, the water has the power of rising to the surface: this table-land is called Hamâda. It must have been this situation which gave so great importance to this place in the eyes of the Romans, that they made it the fortified station of a whole legion.

The Uâde, about half a mile large, with steep sides of about 150 feet height, runs from south to north, where, joining the U. Tabonieh, it winds it, and falls into U. Zemzem, which together with U. Sofejeen and the smaller U. Bet, carries all the water that falls in this whole country during the raining season down to Tauarga, at the north-western corner of the great Syrtis. In this channel there is a small, but fine plantation of about 350 date-trees, under whose lofty crowns beautiful patches of fine corn and barley are brought up and nourished by plenty of water partly rushing from under the ground in a limpid source, partly drawn up with very little fatigue from wells only some four or five feet deep. Over the eastern side of this green fertile furrow, whose freshness presents a most striking contrast with the sterile rocky table-land all around, lies the village, now a mere heap of tumbling rubbish of mud, interspersed with some large square stones, remains of a more flourishing period of this country. You traverse the village in a northerly direction, and suddenly you find yourself opposite to a well-preserved Roman gateway, which is still at present the only passage on this side, as the place is walled. It is not merely a gate, but a whole bastion which you have before you, and your interest becomes much greater if, on going outside the place, you see on the keystone of the principal gateway the few but most important letters, PRO.AFR.ILL.

It is just now, after the second part of the *Notitia Imperii* having at length been published, that this discovery of a great part of the *castra stativa* of a whole Roman *legio* in this part of Africa, so many miles from the coast, will gratify the interest of everybody who has any knowledge of the economy of the Roman empire, and I am sorry indeed that I have not that volume with me amongst my travelling library, in order to dwell longer on the subject. For a traveller, I hope it will be sufficient to send a drawing and a ground plan, which will give a better idea of the interesting monument than a

long description. I will only remark that the sculpture on the keystone over the smaller gateway to the left is no doubt the memorial of some victory achieved by the Roman troops, and I am very sorry that the condition of the stone did not allow me to recognise, and consequently to sketch, the lower part of the sculpture.

Besides this bastion, I could not find any other remains of antiquity in or near the place but a small half-destroyed cistern, 5 feet $3\frac{1}{2}$ inches (French measure, as in the plan) large, and at least 38 feet long; though cut in the limestone, it is still overlaid with square stones.

Seventeen minutes N. 20° W.—that is N. 33° W.—from this gate there is a Nadour, built in former times by the oppressed inhabitants of the place, in order to keep out the Taesh—so freebooters are called here—and the transom over its small door leads to the top is a large square stone, with an interesting inscription, which I send without commentary, as I must confess that here in Mourzuk I do not know exactly the meaning of the word *reservatio*.

Also in *Ghareea el sherkeea*, another oasis about ten miles eastward, which it was impossible for me to visit, I was told there is a large Roman castle, but without such gateway as in this place, which, if I am not wrong, is a very rare example of a *castra stativa*. The Roman sepulchre near the well Tabonieh, a fine monument, though not so splendid as that in U. Tagejee, of which I sent a drawing to the Foreign-office, is most probably the sepulchre of a captain of the Roman legion; unfortunately, the tablet destined to bear the epitaph of the deceased never was filled up.

This short account I hope will give you some idea of my activity; certainly at present we have passed the boundary of the ancient stones, and if the story about the Roman town in Uadai is not a fable, the Roman sepulchre near Jermah (Garama) in Uadi Gharbi will be the last record of classic antiquity which I shall see till my safe return to the shores of the Mediterranean. Before entirely giving me up to researches of another kind, I would have liked to send to Europe some other things, particularly an exact account of very curious ancient hydraulic works near the ancient Cyniphus, east from Leptis, which I visited once more on my present journey, but I am afraid I shall find no leisure.

Mourzuk, the 7th June.

The letter which ought to have been sent many days ago is still in my hands, as the courier left today so early, that I was not able to make it ready. We shall leave this Wednesday next for *Air* (not *Ahir*), with a tolerably strong caravan, guided by the Tenilkum Tuareg. Hatteta and the son of Shafoor are not yet arrived from Ghat; Galiff sometimes suffering very much.

Requesting you to make me acquainted with the new discoveries that are going on in other parts of this continent, and promising you to let you know if I have something of great interest, I beg you to believe me yours, &c.,

DOCTOR BARTH.

ARTS AND SCIENCES.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.

July 22nd.—The annual meeting for the distribution of prizes. Lord Colborne in the chair; Prince Albert being prevented by the death of the Duke of Cambridge. His lordship feelingly alluded to the loss which the arts had sustained in the demise of Sir Robert Peel; and the Secretary read the address of the council, which stated that, while the average number of new members elected in former years was 105, in the past session not fewer than 250 members had joined. Towards the great Exhibition of 1851 the members of the society had contributed £288. 12s. The address recognised the success of the Exhibition of Ancient and Mediaeval Art, lately closed, and explained that its own annual exhibition for the present year presented no remarkable features, in consequence of the preparations for

1851. The following is the *résumé* of the main points in the exhibition for which prizes had been awarded:—

The wide furniture damask of Messrs. Lings and Keith; the wide ribands of Messrs. Cornel, Lyell, and Webster; the machine-made lace of Messrs. Reckless and Hickling; the tamboured lace of Messrs. Lambert and Bury, interesting on account of the new branch of industry which it has afforded to the very poor population of a part of Ireland; and the printed shawls of Messrs. Keith and Shoobridge. The wood carvings of Mr. Wallis also deserve honourable mention.

The gold medal of the President for improvements in the machinery or processes employed in the cultivation or preparation of sugar in the British colonies has not been awarded; but the new cane-press of Mr. Bessemer, for which that gentleman will receive the society's large gold medal, though applying only to one part of the process, in which a general improvement would appear to be contemplated by his Royal Highness, has the merit of introducing a principle at once new and of great beauty into that process; while, by reducing the weight and cumbrousness of the machinery, much has been done by Mr. Bessemer towards removing the main obstacle for improvement in the working machinery of the colonies of the tropics—viz., difficulty of transport.

The condenser of Mr. Siemens has also the merit of being the development of a new principle, and as such, as well as for the ingenious manner in which that novelty has been carried out in the detail of construction, it has been deemed by the council worthy of the large gold medal.

As an example of an article of manufacture, in the production of which all attempts have hitherto been unsuccessful, but which has at last been accomplished just when most needed, is to be noticed the full-sized bath in Stourbridge clay of Messrs. Rufford and Finch, for which your gold Isis medal has been awarded to those gentlemen. For the production of this article a prize was, at the special suggestion of the president, offered by the society in the session of 1846-47, with a view to the assistance of the movement for people's baths and washhouses, then in its infancy.

The goblet which last year the council announced as being in preparation from the designs of Mr. MacLise, R.A., in accordance with the provisions of the Swiney bequest, has been perfected, and the cup has been for some time before the society. The council feel that they can congratulate the society on having in this cup obtained a work of art worthy of the fame of Mr. MacLise and of the intentions of the late Dr. Swiney.

The address concludes by announcing the following special prize list for 1851:—

The council offer, in the name of the society, the large medal and 25*l.* for the best, and the society's small medal and 10*l.* for the second best, treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Raw Materials and Produce.

A large medal and 25*l.* for the best, and a small medal and 10*l.* for the second best, treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Machinery.

A large medal and 25*l.* for the best, and a small medal and 10*l.* for the second best, treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Manufactures.

A large medal and 25*l.* for the best, and a small medal and 10*l.* for the second best, treatise on the objects exhibited in the section of Fine Arts.

Each treatise must occupy, and not exceed, 80 pages of the size of the "Bridgewater Treatises."

The society will also award its large medal and 25 guineas for the best general treatise upon the Exhibition treated commercially, politically, and statistically; and small medals for the best treatises on any special object or class of objects exhibited.

The treatises for which rewards are given are to be the property of the society, and if deemed suitable for publication, should the council see fit, they will cause the same to be printed and published, and will award to the author the net amount

of any profits which may arise from the publication after the payment of the expenses.

The treatise to be delivered at the society's house on or before the 30th of June, 1851.

In announcing this list, there is no intention on the part of the council to confine the rewards of the society to the subjects named there, though, for the reasons given, they do not anticipate that communications of interest on other subjects will be submitted.

The prizes of the year were then presented by Lord Colborne; the presentation in each section being preceded by short explanatory speeches from Mr. W. Hawes, Mr. Redgrave, R.A., Mr. Scott Russell, and other members.

ARCHITECTURAL PUBLICATION SOCIETY.

A GENERAL meeting of the subscribers to this society was held some time ago at the rooms of the Royal Institute of British Architects, in Lower Grosvenor-street, to receive the report of the committee on the general affairs of the society, and the account of receipts and expenditure; and also for the consideration of various matters connected therewith. Mr. C. R. Cockerell, R.A., in the chair. Mr. Wyatt Papworth, hon. sec., read the report of the committee, which commenced with an explanation and account of the obstacles to regularity in the issue of the publications of the society. The uncertainty of the income, and the non-performance of the engagements made by some of the gentlemen whose offers of assistance for text had been accepted, had been amongst the causes of delay in 1848 and 1849. The MSS. of the original papers are, it appeared, placed in the hands of competent judges possessed of full powers of supervision; and the committee have, by advertisement, invited all parties experienced in subjects connected with architecture to forward essays or papers having reference thereto either artistically, constructively, or archaeologically, a plan which they have considered desirable for the purposes of the publications generally, as well as necessary for carrying out efficiently the objects of the Cyclopaedia. The statement of accounts for the year ending 30th April, 1849, showed receipts of 515*l.* 11*s.*, the subscriptions of 491 members of the society; and expenditure of 460*l.* 3*s.* 2*d.* Of this 231*l.* 5*s.* 7*d.* had been paid for lithography and printing. The balance in the hands of the treasurer was then 55*l.* 7*s.* 10*d.* For the year ending April 30, 1850, there appeared receipts—from 394 subscriptions and the last year's balance—of 469*l.* 1*s.* 10*d.*, with an expenditure of 292*l.* 17*s.* 8*d.*, and liabilities of 30*l.* 1*s.* 4*d.*, amounting together to the sum of 323*l.* 15*s.*, and thus showing a balance of 145*l.* 6*s.* 10*d.* for a third part of the letter-press and its expenses. The first resolution, recommending the adoption of the report, was moved by Mr. Henry J. Stephens, and seconded by Mr. Thomas Little. The next, "That this meeting does not consider the society at present to be in a position to enable the members to guarantee the effective continuance of such an important work as the Cyclopaedia of Architecture referred to in the report, but requests that the list of 'terms' be continued, in order to complete that portion of a most desirable work," was moved by Mr. Arthur Aspitel, and seconded by Mr. Ed. I'Anson. Other resolutions having reference to the working of the society, and various complimentary votes, were passed, after able and earnest addresses from gentlemen practically and theoretically acquainted with the subject of architecture. Messrs. R. Suter, W. G. Habershon, Donaldson, Little, C. C. Nelson, Thomson, and W. Wilds, were among the speakers, and severally expressed their conviction of the utility of publications, illustrated or otherwise, in improving the general tone of architecture, and benefiting at once the profession and the public.*

* We had mislaid this report, and beg to excuse the delay.
—Ed. L. G.

ARCHEOLOGY.

BRITISH ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION.

July 10th.—Mr. Pettigrew, V.P. in the chair. Mr. Lindsay, of Cork, exhibited a drawing of a small crucifix of silver, originally gilt, and apparently as early as the thirteenth century; also a drawing of a coin of Henry I., having on the reverse a pattern similar to that on the back of the crucifix. Mrs. Graham, of Chichester, the impression of a coin of Allectus, found between the lead lining and stone of the font of West Wittering Church. Mr. Baigent, a series of coloured drawings of paintings found in Wellow Church, Hants, consisting of two crowned heads from the spandrels, and scrolls round the jambs of the windows, of the thirteenth century; also a drawing of a tile, now in the library of Winchester Cathedral, of about the same date, representing an archbishop, and a drawing of a coin found in the garden of the Benedictine convent at Winchester, and many interesting seals. Communications were received from Mr. J. Moore, of West Coker, on human bones and skulls found in the fissure of the rock, about fifteen feet from the surface, at Ham Hill, near Yeovil. This was accompanied by some observations from Dr. Pettigrew. He considered that the skull had, without doubt, belonged to a young Roman female, and he entered into a full description of the remainder of the bones. Mr. Charles Baily read an account of Roman and other antiquities found during the excavations for the foundations of a house in Mincing Lane. In this place Roman buildings of two periods were distinctly traced, the floors of each remaining, and between them were discovered the base and capital of a column. A Purbeck marble mortar, fragments of Samian ware, &c., and many varieties of medieval pottery, &c., were found in the ground above.

The meetings were then adjourned to the congress meeting at Manchester.

CAERLEON ANTIQUARIAN ASSOCIATION.

THIS society held its annual meeting on Wednesday, 17th inst., and was well attended.

After a few words by the President, Sir Digby Mackworth, the Secretary read the Report, on which the *Monmouthshire Merlin* (from which we compress our account) observes:—It cannot be said that this statement is very satisfactory, inasmuch as no society, which is at all in debt, can be said to be flourishing; but when the difficulties with which we have had to contend are considered, there is more room for surprise that so much has been done, than that our funds are exhausted, and that future receipts have to a certain degree been anticipated. Still, there is no advantage in disguising the matter,—we are in debt to the amount of about 60*l.*; and though the building is finished, and ready to receive the whole of the antiquities, yet only the larger and rougher objects can be permanently exhibited, for want of the glass cases, which will cost a considerable sum, and for which, of course, the committee have not the necessary funds. If only the fitting-up of the museum be completed, and the debt paid off, the yearly subscriptions will be amply sufficient for all the wants of the society.

With respect to the objects of antiquarian interest, discovered at Caerleon during the past year, it may be well to mention, that during the whole year, fortunately without any expense to the society, Mr. John Jenkins has continued his excavations almost daily, in the large villa in his grounds. Very many objects of interest have come to light, most of which have been already drawn and described. Those which have been lately discovered are yet unpublished; and it may serve as an instance of the utility of a museum in our own town, that one of them, a large portion of a pillar altar, was found by Mr. Jenkins in his grounds, early in the day, and in the afternoon was deposited

by him in the museum, thus rendering it perfectly secure from further injury.

The Rev. D. Jones read a paper on the antiquity of the British Church, in which, having stated the fact, from an independent author, that the Britons were Christians before Augustine, and having cleared some objections and obstacles to that fact of history, he proceeded from Welsh sources to collect, that Christ was preached to the heathen Britons in the age of Apostolic men, if not of Apostles. And first, he finds a name for the first preacher, which means "first," shows that it was usual to substitute a title for a name, and is led to conclude that "Cyndaf" was St. Paul. Secondly, he finds from the way in which Aristobulus is pronounced "Arwystl," that this missionary came before the Britons were familiar with the Latin tongue. Thirdly, he compared the surname of "Llediaith,"—"the man with the broken language,"—with the distinct history that Lear was several years at Rome; and, fourthly, he concluded, from the mention of Israelites among the first preachers, that they must have come over in the former part of the first century. The reader then proceeded to notice a confusion of two dates, a century apart being given for the entrance of Christianity; and maintained that the first conversion was of individuals, and desultory,—but the latter of tribes, permanent. He further noticed the fact of the absence of monasteries, and the flourishing state of cottages; so that it points to a primitive state of things,—and he showed that the Bishops were not separated from their clergy till the last period of the British Church. He called attention to the Holy Families of Britain, to show that celibacy had not prevailed, but that great numbers adhered to the Christian faith,—and mentioned the worthies connected with Caerleon. He lastly stated, that the Saints, to whom churches were dedicated in the British Church, were the missionaries to the particular locality, and were truly the spiritual founders of Christianity in that place,—alluding to the Roman and Jewish founders of churches in Caerleon, and the British founders of churches immediately near. From these premises the reader came to the conclusion that the British church was the work of the early part of the first century of the Christian era.

The Secretary then exhibited several small objects of antiquarian interest, which have lately been discovered; and also tracings of two inscriptions lately found by Mr. Jenkins in his grounds. The first is on a stone or tablet dedicated to the Goddess Fortune, "by the Prefect of the Camp." Unfortunately, his name is not very distinct, and cannot be perfectly ascertained.

The other inscription is a singular one—at least if the view taken by Mr. Lee be correct; he considers it to be an altar dedicated to Mithras, or the sun. Most unfortunately, the first part of the first two lines is mutilated; what remains of the inscription, however, appears to warrant the reading SANCTO MITHRAE. The restored inscription translated into English, would record that "S. Justus (or S. Fustus) erected this tablet to the holy Mithras, when * * * was emperor." Mr. Lee stated that both history and inscriptions proved that the worship of Mithras was not only known but popular amongst the Romans, even in their colonies; and he illustrated this by a rough outline of a singular slab found at York, and still preserved there, representing the Mithraic mysteries. This was compared with the outline of an antique gem found at Rome, which seemed to correspond in almost every particular. It is remarkable that these rites are said by the early fathers to have in some degree resembled those of Christianity, and they were thought the more dangerous on this account.

Mr. Lee then exhibited an enlarged drawing of a curious medical seal lately found by Mr. Jenkins, on which a cock and a hare are seen looking into a cauldron, the inscription round, is, "Henis na mare bote cock, pot, hare;" or, in other words, "Here is no more than cock, pot, hare."

Mr. Albert Way possesses a singular counterpart, probably cut by the same artist; the subject is an ape riding on an ass, and holding an owl on his wrist, as if in the sport of hawking—the inscription is “Here is no lass—ape, ule, and ass,” or, in other words, “Here is no less than ape, owl, and ass.” The meaning of these singular devices, Mr. Lee said he was unable to explain.

After having selected the committee, the meeting adjourned to the museum, which was adorned with evergreens and flowers, and where a large number of the antiquities were temporarily arranged on tables, with tickets explanatory of their nature. The room is decidedly handsome, and is well adapted for the purpose of a museum.

The proceedings were terminated by the whole party ascending the castle mound, on the summit of which they partook of refreshments; few places could have been better selected—the view is one of the best in the neighbourhood, and the sky was sufficiently overcast to prevent inconvenience from the heat.

A paper contributed by Thomas Wakeman, Esq., was then read by the secretary, “On the Chronology of British History in the fifth century, and the true eras of some of the principal personages of that period.”

After alluding to the chronological difficulties arising from the different modes of computation, Mr. W. enumerated some of the events in the latter part of the fourth and the beginning of the fifth century. In 407, the Roman army in Britain revolted, and proclaimed Marcus emperor, whom they shortly put to death, and elected a Briton named Gratian to the dignity, and at the end of four months killed him, and proclaimed Constantine their emperor. He got possession of the whole of Gaul and Spain. While this was going on, it appears that the emperor Honorius, in 410, sent a letter authorizing the Britons to defend themselves, which has been strangely construed into an abandonment of the sovereignty of the island. That this was not the case, is very evident from the fact of a body of troops having been sent over to Britain in 414, by whom the Picts and Scots were defeated; and when Vortiger began to reign, he is said to have been in great fear of the Scots and Picts, the Roman forces, and Ambrosius. This personage appears to have been one of the last officers of note in Britain, and the British chieftain’s alliance with Hengist was in a great measure caused by the fear of him.

All these points of history were illustrated at considerable length by Mr. Wakeman; and one part of the paper explains the passage in *Iornandes*, when Rhothimus, a British king, is said to have sent 12,000 men to the assistance of the Roman emperor in Gaul, against Enric, king of the Visigoths. The name of this king has puzzled our English historians; but a slight knowledge of Welsh will explain it. The first syllable Rhi, which is titular, and signifies king, united with the proper name Gwrthifyr, or Gwrthimyr, becomes Rhi-wrthimer, dropping the initial, according to the rules of grammar: the Latin historians soften the pronunciation a little, and alter the termination, and the word becomes Rhi-othimus. It has been objected to this interpretation, that Vortimer was not likely to have been in a condition to have led so large an army into Gaul, but when it is considered that for some years before this event, the Britons had been at peace, there seems nothing surprising in the fact. Mr. Wakeman refers to the Uter Pendragon of Geoffrey of Monmouth, as a creation of his own brain, and we fear that his opinion respecting Arthur will not find general favour in the Principality. He believes that Arthur never existed as an individual, but was simply a personification of the Cymry or Britons; he shows that the authors who first mention him, lived some centuries afterwards, and quotes the ancient British verses, which record the burial places of several warriors, but add, “the grave of Arthur is unknown.” In the Mabinogion of Arthur, he is con-

fessedly an allegorical personage; besides which, the Britons had no idea of knights-errant sallying forth in quest of adventures; so that these tales must be subsequent to the Norman conquest.

FINE ARTS.

SIR ROBERT PEEL.

The memorable death of this distinguished person has, as might be expected in our active circles engaged in trade, awakened a busy competing spirit for the production of articles relating to him, and especially in connexion with Literature and the Arts. In the one, Memoirs, Speeches, Recollections, Anecdotes, &c., have been abundantly supplied; and, in the other, every printshop window in London displays its Peels of every style and every degree, but mostly very indifferent, absolutely bad, or utter caricature.

In the midst of these anomalous performances, we have been invited to inspect two Likenesses of Sir Robert, which, to our judgment, possess superior claims to be regarded as faithful memorials of his features and personal appearance.

At Messrs. Herings and Remington’s is exhibiting a whole-length portrait, painted by Mr. Pickersgill for Mr. Vernon some four years ago, and which, we believe, the death of that gentleman prevented being added (as he intended) to the noble collection given by him to the Nation. Aware of this fact, Mr. T. G. B. Estcourt, once Sir Robert’s colleague representing the University of Oxford in Parliament, acquired this painting from the artist, with the view to its being purchased by friends and admirers of the deceased statesman and presented to Lady Peel. This object, we presume, may readily be accomplished, as the profits of a popular engraving must be almost productive enough to satisfy the value of the original. Be this as it may, however, we consider the Portrait to be very like, and extremely characteristic—perhaps the more so from not being highly finished. The countenance appears as if Sir Robert were about to speak, and the attitude, with one hand resting on a table, agrees perfectly with that expression. The pose is natural and easy, the costume familiar, as the common habit of Sir Robert when addressing the House on important occasions, and the whole, indeed, if we may so describe it, having that Parliamentary Air which will hand down the resemblance as a faithful one to future times.

The other likeness to which we have alluded is a very striking one, though of a different kind. It is to be seen at Mr. Hogarth’s gallery, and is a bust by Christopher Benini, an Italian sculptor, executed at nearly the same period as Mr. Pickersgill’s picture. The likeness is happily preserved, and with more of intellectual impress than we are aware of in any other instance. This is produced by a certain degree of weight, or severity, on the brow just above the eye; and which may be received as the look assumed when enunciating the gravest opinions upon momentous questions. The nose also is skilfully defined; but the great merit of the design is in the management of the mouth. The upper lip, slightly compressed, and the whole play of the features around, are truth itself. It is the approach to a something like humorous remark, or, it may be, a little supercilious sarcasm, where the subject matter did not meet with approbation; but however it may be translated, we have frequently witnessed it, and know it to be an admirably characteristic trait of Art.

Ecce Homo. By Correggio. Engraved by G. T. Doo. Hogarth.

We rejoice in this beautiful engraving. It reminds us of Robert Strange and the highest productions of English art at its best period. Of the subject

* We may here remark upon these exhibitions generally, that they are glaring examples of the worst taste. So far from the fine arts appearing to have been diffused by their boasted cultivation, they have, in this respect, decidedly degenerated. The subject well deserves a special Essay.—ED. L. G.

we need say little. The exquisite feeling, combined with a dignity so divine, and the fine and touching contrasts, at once so natural, so pathetic, and so full of meaning, stamp the whole as one of the noblest of Correggio’s works. And upon it, our own excellent artist, Doo, has bestowed a labour of love. It is nearly as long ago as the period during which the siege of Troy lasted, we think, that we heard of its being in hand; and if ten years’ care has been bestowed upon it, the pains-taking has not been thrown away. The engraving is as fine a one as we have seen since the *Literary Gazette* took up the promotion of the Arts the third of a century ago.

Lord Ashburnham’s Pictures.—Of the noble pictures particularized in our last *Gazette*, the Salvator sold for 1785*l.* to the Marquis of Hertford; Claude’s “View of the Bay of Naples” brought 1123*l.*; Mr. Worley; and his “View near Rome,” 1800 guineas; the Murillo portrait, 829*l.* 10*s.*; Lord Spencer; the Poussins severally 1160 and 1180 guineas. The Cuyp, Teniers, and Rembrandt were not sold. A Carlo Dolci, “Daughter of Herodias,” 735 guineas; “Lucretia Stabbing herself,” Guido, 409*l.* 10*s.*; Rubens’ “Nature Unveiled by the Graces,” 1000 guineas; “A Mathematician” by Rembrandt, 1000 guineas, and “A Cavalier” by the same, 724*l.* 10*s.*; Mr. Farer; “The Horn-Book,” by Schedone, 750 guineas. The total amount reached above 25,000*l.*, and the pictures withdrawn were valued at not less than 8000*l.* or 9000*l.* The noble lord, it seems, has taken up the pursuit of missal and autograph collecting in preference to painting, and thus the latter were dispersed.

Picture of Oberon and Titania.—This is a remarkable fairy work by Mr. Noel Paton, of the Scottish Academy, and will be recognised by many as on a smaller scale at the Westminster Hall Exhibition some years ago. It is now the property of the Scottish National Gallery, and is exhibited at Messrs. Graves’. In its peculiar style it is quite unique, and certainly a very interesting picture. The multitude of fairy forms in all kinds of fantastic attitude, sporting in misty groups, playing with moths and butterflies, and sleeping in lily-bells, forms a beautiful scene. The figures of Oberon and Titania, and the little subversive object of the quarrel, are not well drawn, and do not look of the same blood as the faery elves around them.

The King of Holland’s Pictures.—A large part of this fine collection of the late King has, it is said, passed to the gallery of the Emperor of Russia. The remainder will perhaps be sold in London.

Statue of Hampden.—Mr. Foley has finished a fine work in marble of this celebrated man, which is about to be placed in St. Stephen’s Hall, in the New Houses of Parliament. It is heroic in size, and represents Hampden in the costume of his day, with a military cloak partly wrapped around the upper part of the figure, and the right arm extended and supported by a naked sword. The likeness is taken from a picture late in the possession of Mr. Elys, and the head has a fine expression,—calm, courageous, honest, and dignified. It is remarkable that the artist has succeeded in giving the two great characteristics of the man at two reverse views of the statue—on one side we see the statesman, on the other the soldier. This is the most important work Mr. Foley has yet accomplished, and it does him great credit. A very beautiful group, called “The Mother,” as yet in the clay, is also shown at Mr. Foley’s atelier. It resembles in composition his well-known “Ino and Bacchus.”

Bronze Statue of the Duke of Rutland.—The model for this colossal statue has just been finished by Mr. Davis. It is to be erected in the market-place at Leicester, and is intended to do honour to the Duke, who for more than fifty years has held the Lord-lieutenancy of the county.

FOREIGN CORRESPONDENCE.

FRANCE.

Paris, Thursday.

In the notice of the new law on the press in my last, I omitted to mention that a stamp duty is imposed on all literary and scientific journals and periodicals, (as well as on those of a political character), provided they appear more than once a month. For this omission, however, I am not responsible, as, by some extraordinary bungling, it was actually made by the Government and the National Assembly in their promulgation of the law. The mistake has since been rectified, and it has increased the consternation which the new law has caused in the literary circles. For the inevitable effect of the enactment will be to kill off at once a whole host of non-political publications, and to materially diminish the circulation of those that remain. As regards poor devils of authors, we must regret this destruction or lessening of their already too circumscribed means of employment; but, nevertheless, it is impossible to suppose that any serious injury will be done to literature and science, inasmuch as the *periodical literature* of France is not only utterly unworthy of comparison with that of England or Germany, but is, with a very few honourable exceptions, perfectly despicable. If, for example, we exclude the *Revue des Deux Mondes*—a sort of cross between the English *Quarterly* and the monthlies,—if we exclude also a few dry scientific periodicals, and one or two theatrical or musical newspapers, we shall seek in vain for any *Quarterly*, or *Blackwood*, or *Art Union*, or *Literary Gazette*; and even the periodicals and journals which make the nearest approach to the weekly, fortnightly, monthly, or quarterly publications of England, are either wretched compilations, or abominably ill-written and ill printed. The *feuilleton* system of the newspapers is no doubt the principal cause of the periodical literature being in such an extremely pitiable state.

But though literary and scientific periodicals be, generally speaking, vile in quality, they can at least boast of quantity. There are, it seems, not fewer than 300 of one kind or another published in Paris alone. Among them are 44 devoted to medicine, chemistry, natural science, &c.; 42, trade, commerce, railways, advertisements; 34, fashions; 30, law; 22, administration, public works, roads, bridges, mines; 19, archaeology, history, biography, geography, numismatics; 19, public instruction and education; 15, agriculture and horticulture; 8, bibliography and typography; 10, army and navy; 7, literary; the rest theatrical, musical, or of a character too hybrid to be classified.

The ex-king, Louis Philippe, it appears, persists in demanding that he shall either be paid for the pictures, &c., he added to the galleries of the Louvre, or that they shall be given up to him. He even demands cash for, or the restoration of, what is called the Stanish Gallery—that is, the large and not valueless collection of pictures and works of art which our countryman, Mr. Stanish, presented to him some years ago, in a pique, I believe, at being refused a title by the English government; which collection, it was always understood, Louis Philippe had formally given to the nation—as formally, indeed, as he gave the acres of pictures which cover the walls of the palace of Versailles. His ex-majesty also specially demands a con-si-der-a-tion for, or giving up of, what is known as the Spanish gallery—a collection scraped together in Spain at an enormous price, but containing many daubs and many productions of doubtful authenticity, which also, it was believed, he had given to the country. The authorities of the Louvre are in doubts what to do: to comply with the old King's demands would offend the public; to refuse would be ungracious and unkind to him. But to speak the whole truth, these people would not be sorry to get rid of the whole lots, inasmuch as whatever may be their intrinsic value, they sink into com-

parative insignificance by the side of the glorious gallery of the great Italian, Dutch, and French masters: and besides, they occupy room which, it is believed, could be turned to much better account.

You were informed some months back that several theatres had their drop curtains turned into huge advertising placards, by the painting on them of certain pictorial representations of different descriptions of merchandise, accompanied with the names and addresses in big letters of the dealers in the same. The persons who invented this description of advertising are now forming a company with a large capital for *exploiting* it in England. *Avis* to your theatrical managers.

Adolphe Adam, the eminent composer and member of the Institute, and Scribe, the indefatigable and immortal, have just obtained a glorious triumph at the Opera Comique, by the production of a three act opera called *Giraldo*. It is concocted and written with all the marvellous ingenuity and exquisite wit to which Scribe has accustomed us; and Adam has wedded to it most witching music—nay more, he has made the music almost as witty and every bit as expressive as the *paroles* of the poet. From first to last the opera is one string of beauties; and it is thickly studded with fascinating *morceaux*. The opening chorus—a comic duo between the two leading characters—(an adorable piece of fun)—a love scene between husband and wife—and the final chorus, were specially singled out for applause by the audience; but in truth the enthusiasm was so long and hearty, that it would be difficult to say what was *not* applauded, or what was applauded most. M. Adam has added immeasurably to his already great reputation.

MUSIC.

Her Majesty's Theatre.—Sontag sang the part of *Semiramide* in the first act of the opera on Thursday, the occasion of her benefit, and gave a very elegant and queenly performance, in the manner so peculiarly her own. This was followed by the *Barber of Seville*, in which Sontag was the *Rosina*.

Royal Italian Opera, Covent Garden.—Grisi's *Semiramide* is certainly one of her greatest parts; taking it for all in all, for beauty and richness of voice, for brilliancy of execution, and for general pourtrayal of the character, as well as for her unrivalled personal appearance in the part, it ranks amongst the finest examples of the lyric art. We had despaired of seeing her in this opera, thinking that the part of *Arace* could not be filled up in a manner worthy of the former representations at this theatre. It was with some misgivings, then, that we saw the *Semiramide* announced for Tuesday, with Mdlle. de Meric in the contralto part. However, she made a very agreeable and meritorious *Arace*, if lacking some of the force and decision which belonged to the performance of *Alboni* and *Angri*. Grisi sang the whole of the music in the finest style, and the "Bel raggio" and "La forza premiera" were given truly with all the perfection and power of her early years, requiring no indulgence from the delighted listener.

The grand spectacle opera, *La Juive*, was given, according to announcement, on Thursday, for the first time. If M. Halévy's fame be destined, as we believe deservedly, to survive the "blazes of triumph" to which he has been so unmercifully condemned of late, and which we should have feared would suffice for the extinction of any but the greatest and most assured merit, he will have to thank the Royal Italian Opera for the Phoenix-like resurrection from the ashes of his own glory—or, in other words, for rescuing him from "the jaws of the *Tempest*." The sudden and violent glorification of a composer hitherto not believed in, scarcely recognised, by our lyric stage, might well astonish the uninitiated, and divert even the most wary in these matters. It was only for our Parisian *habitués* that the name of the composer of *La Juive*

possessed any significance, and even in his own country he may be said to have enjoyed rather a certain, than an increasing reputation, as a sound and complete musician, rather than as a creative genius of ripening promise and inappreciable powers. It may be asserted without injustice, that M. Halévy has scarcely fulfilled the expectations aroused by the opera to which he owed his first and most enduring praise. Since the untimely death of Herold, of whom we believe he was the musical executor, he has produced but one, or at most two, grand operas, which have fairly kept the stage with unquestioned and progressive success; and one of these, *Guido et Ginevra*, survives only, so far as the stage is concerned, in the grand final air for the tenor, inseparably associated with the triumphs of Duprez. His later contributions to the *répertoire* of the Académie, the *Reine de Clyppe*, and *Charles VI*, may be pronounced as *succès d'estime*, the former, with two or three slight exceptions, being decidedly heavy, and the latter relying almost solely on its appeal to national vanity in the martial chorus, "Jamais en France l'Anglais ne regnera." In the *Opéra Comique*, indeed, M. Halévy has been more fortunate. *L'Eclair*, (in which the impress of Herold is so evident,) and more recently the *Mousquetaires de la Reine*, and the *Val d'Andorre*, have been accepted with genuine enthusiasm, and sustained the fortunes of the theatre in troublous times. It would seem that M. Halévy is more master of his resources in the light and airy texture of the *Opéra Comique*, with its delicate conceits and ingenious complications, than in approaching the loftier emotions of the grand lyric drama. We confess to a thrill of ancient recollections in reading the first simple and sincere announcement (according to the excellent custom of this house) of "*La Juive* for the first time in England;" we were carried back to the good old days when the Académie Royale was in its glory, when Duprez was in the full meridian of his powers, and poor Falcon in her brief but glorious prime. We thought, too, of L'Essevier, of Nourrit, and of the noble band of artistes all now scattered and gone. It is curious that *La Juive* should never before have been known to the English public except by some few passing performances of a Belgian company, and (the story only) by the melo-dramatic *spectacle* under the consulship of Mr. Bunn, in 1835. The libretto is really the most masterly and sustained in interest that ever proceeded even from the exhaustless Scribe, and presents a highly picturesque glance at the fierce times of the fifteenth century, when Jews were cooked alive for their judaism, and Christians for nonconformity; and when Cardinals, Priests, and Nobles enjoyed an *auto da fé* much as our depraved mobs do a public execution. No Opera can be more completely adapted to display the vast resources of the Royal Italian Opera, not only vocally and dramatically, but in scenic pageant and imposing masses of effect. A series of more striking scenes has rarely been presented on any stage than in *La Juive*, as now at Covent Garden; and not the scenery alone is full of local colour, but the groupings and the disposition of the successive tableaux, which surpass all previous attempts.

The Bacchanalian chorus, followed by a double quartett in the first act, went off with immense fire and precision, and the weighty voice and hearty bonhomie of manner of M. Zelger contributed

not a little to *chauffer les planches*, as the French have it.

Viardot, in the character of *Rachel*, surpassed herself in passionate intensity of expression, in subtle delineation of the nicer lights and shadows of feeling, in that strong individualizing faculty which is her especial gift; above all, in that subdued repose in the quieter intervals of the action which, as it is the concealment of the art, is the last reach of art; and in so entire an abstraction of the artiste in the character represented, as never to seek any but a natural prominence according to

the situation expressed. It is this self-subjection to the broad effect of the picture which lends an antique harmony to all the impersonations of this consummate artiste, and distinguishes her so much from the common opera prima donna. It would be difficult to particularize the many fine points in a performance in which every look and gesture is a study, and love, pity, indignation, terror, holy resignation, sublime devotion, are each in turn depicted; but we may specify her delivery of "Eppure, o ciel . . . ei vieni a me!" in the fourth scene of the second act; the terrible denunciation of *Léopold*, (her love and hate contending,) in the second scene of the third act; and that in the fourth act, (where, in the scene with her rival, she reminds us of another Rachel,) and the whole of the last scene of the Opera, in which her terror at the horrid apparatus of the executioner is overwhelming, and she sinks back, crouching into the Jew's arms, until being asked to renounce her faith, she prefers *to die*, and her countenance beams with celestial hope. The music assigned to *Léopold* (an ungrateful part in sentiment) ranges, for the most part, too low for Tamberg; but this accomplished singer's sympathetic style gave a certain wild and wayward charm to the bizarre and fanciful serenade in the first act; and in the finale to the second act, the thrilling and tempestuous passion with which he rendered the "Ah! non parlar mi no! Vo partir, vo fuggir," conspired with Maralti to bring down a perfect torrent of applause as the curtain fell. Formes makes a very stately and impressive *Cardinal*, and acts with a sustained dignity; but in his singing, though there was no lack of power, we missed the refinement and the calm solemnity of Lévassier. The part of *Eudossia* scarcely admits of a pleasing interpretation; and we are confirmed in this apprehension by the labours of Mdlle. Vera. We have reserved to the last event of the evening, the substitution of Maralti for Mario in *Eleazar*. On entering the theatre, a cloud had darkened the eager expectations of the audience, in the shape of numerous placards announcing this sudden and disappointing necessity—the sincerity of which was not to be doubted, as no artist has given more steady and constant proofs of zeal for the common cause of which he is the chief prop and ornament. He has so completely renewed his fame as a remarkable actor, no less than singer, in the grand creations of Meyerbeer, that his appearance in the great rôle of Duprez was the subject of intense anticipations, and a dismal "sinking" at the sight of these placards was universally felt. We were not wholly unprepared for an intelligent and experienced rendering of the part by Maralti, knowing him to be familiar with the *répertoire* of which *La Juive* is the principal stock-piece. But we were as little disposed as the rest of the audience to expect that the "indulgent consideration" for which an English audience is proverbial, would be entirely superseded by the power and self-possession with which he (at so short a notice, and under all kinds of difficulties from the new arrangement of the opera, and being compelled to sing in French) invested his assumption of the Jew, acting with great intelligence, and in the procession scene in the first act, by the pathos and energy of his utterance of "Fille cherie," fairly carrying the house by storm. He was not less successful in the "Blessing of the unleavened bread," in the second act, which he sang with true devotional solemnity. In "Rachel, quand du Seigneur," and in the succeeding "Et pardonne s'il te donne la couronne du martyr," taxing the highest range of the chest-voice, he succeeded in ratifying the traditional effect of the passage on the audience by their breathless silence and rapturous applause at the close. The elaborate spectacle, with its varied groupings and complicated appointments, has once more showed the tact and taste of Mr. Harris, who is a genuine artist. M. Costa's services were twice distinctly rewarded by a call. We believe that Mario's adjourned assumption of the part which will be perhaps his chief triumph, so far from weak-

ening, has lent a double zest to expectation; for if Maralti, under so great disadvantages, and with a voice of rather metallic quality, has been able to accomplish so deserved a success, what may we not hope from Mario, equally at home in the traditions of the character, and with all the rich resources of his voice?

With regard to the musical merits of *La Juive*, it ranks above *La Tempesta*, but cannot be said to achieve a high position in the art. There is a constant attempt at developing good ideas, but these are seldom made out, and the subject is suffered to fade away into undecided and confused forms. The only finished flow of melody is the air for the tenor in F minor, accompanied with the two *corni inglese*, in the third act, "Rachel, quand du Seigneur;" the double quartett is ineffective. The orchestra is frequently employed in a curious and eccentric way, rather than with a view to bring out the beauties which reside in it; and we especially observed that great failing of the French school—that of relying more upon the words and a certain musical method of uttering them, than upon the music, to which all should yield in the lyric drama.

Organ Performance.—A new organ, intended for Lea Church, has just been completed by Mr. Bishop, of Lissom Grove, the cost of which (£900.) will be defrayed by subscription and by a public performance *in situ*. We had the pleasure of hearing Mr. J. F. Burrowes play some pieces of Handel, Haydn, Bach, Mendelssohn, and Mozart, upon this organ, at the manufactory, and can speak well of its capabilities.

Grand National Concerts.—Under this name, it is said a series of concerts will be given at Her Majesty's Theatre, in November. A committee of noblemen and gentlemen will have the direction, and it is proposed to obtain the first talent, both vocal and instrumental. The prices of admission are to be such as to enable all classes to enjoy the music. We have long said that cheap musical performances of the highest order, both as to executants and music, would be supported successfully. The promenade concerts were never pursued with a view to improve the common taste, but rather to assemble inconveniently crowded audiences to the sound of row polkas and posthorn gallops. The feeling for the music of the great masters, we believe, does exist in sufficient force to promise the success of such concerts as these, and there is no reason why the prettinesses of Strauss, Lanner, and Labitzky, should not be afforded to those who are not yet devoted to the purely classical.

Grisi, it is stated, will not, for a family reason, be able to fulfil her Russian engagement, for which she was to receive 4000l.

BIOGRAPHY.

Mr. B. Simmons.—We have this week to record the death of an amiable man and accomplished writer, Mr. B. Simmons, whose name will be recollect as that of a frequent contributor of lyrical poems of a high order to *Blackwood's Magazine*, and to several of the Annuals. Mr. Simmons, who held a situation in the Excise office, died on Sunday last at his lodgings in Acton-street, Gray's-in-road, and will be buried to-morrow at the Highgate Cemetery.

S. Joseph, the sculptor, who executed the statue of Mr. Wilberforce for Westminster Abbey, and also a statue of Mr. Percival, and other works, especially busts, of considerable merit, has finished his mortal career. He many years ago retired from London to Edinburgh, where he continued to reside in great esteem and respect.

Poor Munyard, whose death we announced last Saturday, died on the 15th. He had been reduced to a melancholy state of mind before the final event,

which, has lent a double zest to expectation; for if Maralti, under so great disadvantages, and with a voice of rather metallic quality, has been able to accomplish so deserved a success, what may we not hope from Mario, equally at home in the traditions of the character, and with all the rich resources of his voice?

ORIGINAL POETRY.

SONNET,

Suggested by Carl Haag's picture of the remains of the temple of La Fortuna Capitolina, at Rome.

Oh magic Art, that like a fairy's wand,
O'erleaping distance, and defying time,
Transports to the remotest age and clime!
Oh, witchery of the gifted painter's hand!
No more are we in our cold northern land—
We're in imperial Rome! Rome in her prime!
Not fall'n, as now she is; but Rome sublime,
Hercule as of yore, when she soared, grand
As you proud columns!—when brave hearts were glowing
As their sun-lighted summits, and o'erflowing
With patriot love! We gaze and gaze, till high
Our own are beating, and in rapt emotion
We feel as if with equal self-devotion
We, too, in any noble cause could die!

ELEANOR DARBY.

LIFE'S SHADOWS.

Who ne'er hath seen the day new born,
Nor wish'd for night, and yet at eve
Sigh'd not again, and wish'd 'twas morn—
Knows not how life through love may grieve!
Who ne'er hath mourn'd o'er friendship lost;
Ne'er fail'd to gain the thing he sought;
Knows not at what a bitter cost
Resignment to hard fate is bought!

Who ne'er hath set a day apart
To welcome pleasure to his breast,
Nor found, with disappointed heart,
That day more cloudy than the rest;
Knows not how sadly life beguiles—
How oft'ner far it cheats than cheers,—
That not a hope, pursued with smiles,
But some time brings the Hoper tears!

CHARLES SWAIN.

SONG.

Thy dear affection budded
For me in gentle sighs,
And in the voiceless language
Of the love-speaking eyes.

Oh! tender sighs and glances are the buds of Love's young tree,
The first fresh leaves that promise what its bloom one day will be!

Thy dear affection flower'd
For me in fervid words,
Such tones as thrill with pleasure!
The heart's responsive chords!

Oh! such words are the blossoms fair of Love's fast-growing tree,
The blushing flowers that promise what its fruit one day will be!

And now thy dear affection
Bear fruits in deeds of love,
A thousand acts, in eloquence
All words, all looks above!

Oh! they're the precious fruit of Love's full-grown deep-rooted tree,
The sweet sweet fruit that promises it ever green shall be!

ELEANOR DARBY.

VARIETIES.

Savings Banks.—If the deposits in Savings Banks can be depended upon as a measure of the well-being of the humbler classes, the last return of the Marylebone Bank is somewhat re-assuring. In 1845, there were 15,724 open deposit accounts, and the total invested 356,265. In 1846 there was an increase of the number of depositors of about 1000, and nearly the same number has been annually added since, till 1850 marks 20,866. But the amount of deposits gradually fell for three years, and was in 1848 reduced to 284,757. In 1849, however, it recovered to 301,663., and is this year, again, 315,638.

The Water in the Serpentine, so strongly condemned by many eminent medical and scientific men, has found a defender in Mr. J. H. Wilson, who, at a meeting of the Botanical Society, maintained that the discoloration of the water arose from a species of Alge, analogous to that which coloured the Red Sea, and in a sanitary point of view, even if swallowed in bathing, would be innocuous.

Lord Holnesdale's Coins.—Besides the British coins noticed in our last, there was sold the rather rich series of Palermitan and Syracusan medallions, which produced from about 7*l.* to 29*l.* each coin—good sums, considering that the “furor numismaticus” has rather abated of late, especially on the Continent, whence few or no orders of any importance are now received, nor have been since 1848! Nevertheless, this collection (the most interesting sale of the season) realized about 2,000*l.* Most of the modern medals, like the antique Greek and Roman, were executed with great care and delicacy, and in a very perfect condition. The catalogue was well got up by Mr. Curt, than whom we have no one better acquainted with numismatography. The British and Saxon portion was sold before the ancient and foreign coins and medals, a plan not profitable, or liked enough perhaps to be again adopted.

Miss Jane Porter's Library was sold at Christie and Manson's, on Wednesday. It consisted of 288 works, in which were included some good folio editions.

A Mr. Duse is astonishing the natives by exhibiting a great and prompt mastery over arithmetical questions. He figures away in prodigious style.

Her Majesty's monstrous Land Tortoise has been presented to the Zoological Gardens, as a rival attraction to the hippopotamus.

Mr. George Stephens, the author of the “Manuscripts of Erdely,” has been struck by ill health and reduced to poverty, and an amateur play is getting up for his benefit at the Soho Theatre. Surely the dramatist who wrote “The Vampire,” “Montezuma,” and “Martinuzzi,” will not appeal in vain for sympathetic succour.

The *Locomotive Balloon* at Vauxhall, Mr. Bell, director, went according to the nature of balloons, and would not be guided. The experiment failed.

The *Count Salamanca's* collection will shortly be brought from Spain to be exhibited for sale in London, and we hear great accounts of the beauty of many of the pictures.

Mr. Allom's Panorama was submitted to a private view on Saturday, and was greatly admired as a work of art. His personal acquaintance with the Dardanelles, Constantinople, &c. &c., has already supplied us with many beautiful and faithful works; and here his studies are concentrated on a grand scale.

The *City of Cracow* is stated to have been extensively desolated by a fire, which, among other buildings, consumed the Archbishop's noble palace.

San Francisco, California, has also suffered greatly from a conflagration, but its extemporaneous houses can soon be re-edified.

Exhibition Building.—The alterations in Mr. Paxton's design are mainly these: a keel-shaped fourth story, and a transept running north and south, so as to break up the long line of front, have been added. The total height will now be 100 feet, sufficient to inclose the highest of the trees on the ground, and Messrs. Fox and Henderson have taken the contract for its execution, to be completed in the present year, for the sum of 85,500*l.*—the materials remaining their property.—*The Builder.* *The Art Journal* says, the conservatory is to cover eighteen acres, and be 110 feet in height, and adds, there will be on the ground-floor alone eight miles of tables; 1,200,000 square feet of glass (manufactured by Chance, of Birmingham); twenty-four miles of one description of gutter, and 218 miles of “ash bar;” and in the construction 4000 tons of iron will be expended. The wooden floor will be arranged with “divisions,” so as to allow the dust to fall through. Within a very short period, 2000 men will be employed in the building. Mr. Paxton has been long known to the public as one of the agents of the Duke of Devonshire, and as the

author of several admirable works on floriculture and botany. The conservatories at Chatsworth were constructed under his directions; and it is understood that he refers to them as affording satisfactory proofs that the ventilation will be better than it could be in buildings of brick.

Madrid.—The Academy of Sciences here have announced the following subject for competition:—“An experimental investigation and explanation of the theory of nitrification; the causes which most influence the production of this phenomenon, and the means most conducive in Spain to natural nitrification.” The prize, to be awarded in May, 1851, is to be a gold medal and 6000 copper real—about 70*l.* sterling; and a second similar medal will be given to the second best paper. The papers, written in Spanish or Latin, are to be sent in before the 1st May, with, as usual, the author's name under seal.

Paris.—The Minister of the Interior has decided that marble busts of M. Gay-Lussac and of M. Blainville shall be executed at the expense of the government, and placed in the Institute.

The Menai Bridge.—The third tube was appointed to be laid (weather permitting) on Thursday, and the bridge is expected to be completed in November.

A Silver Mine of considerable value is stated to have been discovered near Thornbury, in Gloucestershire.

A very rich Gold District, on the river Yuruan, in Venezuela, has also been discovered; altogether, with California and Mexico, if we go on at this rate, the world will get too rich, and the currency question be settled anew by the precious metals.

LITERARY NOVELTIES.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Annie Moore, by Rev. R. Lowndes, 12mo, cloth, 2*s.*
Atlas of Scotland, Imperial folio, half-morocco, 2*s. 6d.*
(D. C.) Modern School Speaker, second edition, 12mo, cloth, 3*s. 6d.*

Broderip's *Zoological Researches*, post 8vo, cloth, 6*s.*

Burke's *Heretical Register*, 1849-50, 8vo, cloth, 2*s.*

Bushman's (J. S.) *Cholera*, and its Cure, 8vo, cloth, 3*s. 6d.*

Chambers's *Papers*, vol. 3, 1*s.*

Library for the Young, vol. 16, 18mo, 1*s.*

Cochrane's (A. B.) *Young Italy*, post 8vo, 10*s. 6d.*

Donaldson's *Rudiments Græca*, new edition, 12mo, cl., 2*s. 6d.*

Every-Day Things, by a Lady, 18mo, cloth, 2*s.*

Heygate's *Wedding Gift*, 18mo, cloth, 3*s.*

Jones's (Rev. W.) *Essay on the Church, and other Tracts*, 18mo, cloth, 1*s. 6d.*

Kelly's (Rev. J.) *Discourses on Scripture*, 12mo, cloth, 5*s. 6d.*

Londonderry's *Story of the Peninsular War*, 12mo, cloth, 6*s.*

Moore's *Country Attorneys' Pocket Remembrancer*, roan tuck, 10*s.*

Mussey's (Rev. A. B.) *Christian Parent*, 12mo, cloth, 3*s. 6d.*

Napier's (Sir C.) *Lights and Shades of Military Life*, 8vo, cloth, 12*s.*

Olmsted's (D.) *Mechanism of the Heavens*, post 8vo, cl., 5*s.*

Petticoat Government, by Mrs. Trollope, 3 vols., post 8vo, boards, £1 11*s. 6d.*

Ruins of Sacred and Historic Lands, post 8vo, cloth, 3*s. 6d.*

Stewart's (D.) *Elements of Philosophy of the Mind*, new edition, by G. N. Wright, 8vo, cloth, 7*s.*

Trollope's (T. A.) *Impressions of a Wanderer in Italy*, post 8vo, cloth, 10*s. 6d.*

DENT'S TABLE FOR THE EQUATION OF TIME.

[This table shows the time which a clock or watch should indicate when the sun is on the meridian.]

1850.	h. m. *	1850.	h. m. *
July 27	12 6 10 1	July 31	12 6 37
24	6 9 3	Aug. 1	6 0 9
29	6 8 0	2	5 57 0
30	6 6 1		

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

At this season of the year, with numerous calls to gather intelligence at a distance from London, we beg to impress on our valued correspondents the expediency of early communications.

Sir Robert Peel.—To judge by the poems sent to us on the disastrous death of Sir Robert Peel, his loss is a theme of general lamentation; but the very number overwhelms us, and we must avoid preferences, and resist the claims to publication. The picture-shop windows, too, teem with every sort of portraiture, and not much of a satisfactory order.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE HIPPOPOTAMUS, presented to the Zoological Society of London, is EXHIBITED DAILY, from 1 to 6 o'clock, at their Gardens in the Regent's Park. The band of the First Life Guards will perform, by permission of Colonel Hall, every Saturday, at 4 o'clock. The Arab snake charmers, Jabar Abou Hajab and Mohammed Abou Merwan, will also perform on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, at 4 o'clock and at 5 o'clock, weather permitting. Admission, 1*s.* each; Mondays, 6*d.*

THE EXHIBITION of PICTURES by ANCIENT MASTERS and deceased BRITISH ARTISTS, at the GALLERY of the BRITISH INSTITUTION, 52, Pall Mall, is OPEN daily from Ten to Six. Admission, 1*s.*; Catalogue, 1*s.*

GEORGE NICOL, Secretary.

FREDERIC REEVE, PRINTER and LITHOGRAPHER, executes every description of work connected with Letterpress and Lithography in the best style and at moderate charges. Illustrations of subjects in Natural History, Geology, Anatomy, Engineering, Architecture, &c., lithographed from nature or from drawings by Artists conversant with the various branches of science, and printed in black or colours. Landscapes, Views, Portraits, &c., completed for publication with artistic correctness from sketches however imperfect, and printed with one or more tints. Microscopic details, Maps, Plans, Sections, Writings, &c., engraved on Stone according to the method adopted in Germany, and printed with an effect little inferior to Steel.

N.B.—Estimates given for Printing on the most reasonable scale.

5, Heathcock Court, Strand.

E. D. J. DENT, by distinct appointments, Watch and Clock Maker to the Queen, H.R.H. Prince Albert, and H.I.M. the Emperor of Russia, having greatly increased his stock of WATCHES and CLOCKS to meet the purchases made at this season of the year, most respectfully requests from the public an inspection of his various assortments. Ladies' gold watches, with gold dials, and jewelled in four holes, 8*g.* each; gentlemen's ditto, enamel dials, 10*g.*; youths' silver watches, 4*g.*; substantial and accurately-going silver lever watches, jewelled in four holes, 6*g.*—E. D. J. DENT, 82, Strand; 33, Cockspur Street; and 34, Royal Exchange, (Clock Tower Area.)

HENDRIE'S PATENT PETROLEUM SOAP has realized in practice all the promised beneficial effects on excoriations and eruptive affections of the cuticle. The “COSMETIC PETROLEUM SOAP,” for the habitual use of the toilet, is found to have an agreeable demulcent influence on the hands, and on the most delicate skin; or in the nursery, for infants. The “PETROLEUM SHAVING SOAP” is peculiarly bland and balsamic, allaying the irritation felt in the employment of the ordinary alkaline compositions.

A more detergent antiseptic, with additional petroleum, named “DISPENSARY SOAP,” is prepared for inveterate cuticular affections of long standing; and, from experience in several public schools, where it has been employed in washing children's heads, it has proved an efficient specific for all the complete protection against, the troublesome complaint known as ringworm.

The Dispensary Soap being at a moderate price, is available for all classes, and is used with great success in purifying linen after infectious diseases; indeed, the use of it may, in many cases of typhus and other contagions, be considered a beneficial antidote.

R. HENDRIE,
PERFUMER TO HER MAJESTY,
12 AND 13, TICHBORNE STREET, REGENT'S QUADRANT.

TOOTHACHE PERMANENTLY CURED by using BRANDE'S ENAMEL for filling decaying Teeth, and rendering them sound and painless. Price 1*s.* Enough for several Teeth. The only substance approved by the medical faculty, as being unattended with pain or danger, and the good effects of which are permanent.

Sold by all Chemists in the United Kingdom. Twenty really authorized Testimonials accompany each box, with full directions for use. Sent free, by return of post, by J. WILLIS, 24, EAST TEMPLE CHAMBERS, WHITEFRIARS, FLEET STREET, LONDON, in return for thirteen penny stamps.

CAUTION.—The great success of this preparation has induced numerous unskillful persons to produce spurious imitations, and to copy BRANDE'S ENAMEL Advertisements. It is needful, therefore, to guard against such impositions, by seeing that the name of JOHN WILLIS accompanies each packet.

**TENTH REPORT
OF THE
DIRECTORS OF THE COMMERCIAL BANK
OF LONDON,**

For the year ending 30th of June, 1850.

At an ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the Shareholders, held at the Banking-house, Lothbury, on Tuesday, the 23rd of July, 1850;

DIRECTORS.

THOMAS BARNEWALL, Esq., Chairman.
WM. BERKSFORD, Esq., M.P., Deputy Chairman.

CHARLES DICKSON ARCHIBALD, Esq.
WILLIAM SPROTT BOYD, Esq.
JOHN ALFRED CHOWNE, Esq.
WILLIAM COOPER, Esq.
JAS. ALEXANDER DOUGLAS, Esq.
CHARLES HILL, Esq.
JONATHAN HOPKINSON, Esq.

Manager—Mr. ALFRED R. CUTBILL.
Secretaries—Messrs. NELSON, TRAVERS, and WYNN;
and Messrs. NORRIS and SONS.

The Managers read the advertisement calling the Meeting, and afterwards the following Report:

R E P O R T.

The Directors have much pleasure in presenting to their co-proprietors the tenth annual statement of the affairs of the Bank.

It will be seen by the annexed balance sheet, that after writing off the bad and doubtful debts, and paying the charges and current expenses of the past year, the net profits amount to £14,982 3s. 8d. Out of these profits a dividend at the rate of £6 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending 31st of December, 1849, has been already paid, and the Directors have now to declare a dividend for the half-year ending 30th of June, 1850, at the same rate, to which they have the satisfaction of adding a bonus of 7s. 6d. per share, both dividend and bonus free from Income Tax.

After paying the dividend and bonus, and deducting the rebate of interest upon current bills, there will remain a balance of £2,468 8s. 7d. to be added to the Reserve Fund, increasing that fund to £23,114 12s. 8d.

In compliance with the provisions of the Deed of Settlement, the following directors, viz.—William Sprott Boyd, Esq., William Cooper, Esq., Mark Hunter, Esq., and Joseph Underwood, Esq., retire from office, and William Cooper, Esq., Mark Hunter, Esq., Joseph Underwood, Esq., being eligible, offer themselves as candidates for re-election, and Charles Butler, Esq., who is a duly qualified proprietor, offers himself as a candidate for the vacant seat.

The report and balance sheet having been read, it was Resolved unanimously, That the report and balance sheet just read be approved, printed, and circulated amongst the proprietors.

The Chairman, Thomas Barnewall, Esq., on the part of the Directors, declared a dividend on the paid-up capital of the Company at the rate of £6 per cent. per annum, and a bonus at the rate of 7s. 6d. per share, both free from Income Tax, payable on and after the 1st of August next.

Resolved unanimously, That the following Directors, viz.—William Cooper, Esq., Mark Hunter, Esq., Joseph Underwood, Esq.—who go out of office in pursuance of the Deed of Settlement, be re-elected Directors of the Company.

That Charles Butler, Esq., be elected a Director of this Company.

That the thanks of the Meeting be presented to the Chairman and the Directors for their able superintendence of the affairs of the Bank.

That the thanks of the proprietors be presented to Mr. Alfred Richard Cutbill for his efficient services as Manager.

(Signed) THOMAS BARNEWALL, Chairman.

That the thanks of the Meeting be presented to Thomas Barnewall, Esq., for his able and courteous conduct in the chair this day.

(Signed) A. R. CUTBILL, Manager.

BALANCE SHEET to 30th June, 1850.

Dr.

Capital subscribed, £673,900.
Capital paid up £134,780 0 0
Guaranteed Fund invested in Government Securities 20,646 4 1
Balances due to the Customers of the Bank 612,596 19 6
Balance carried down after deducting Bad and Doubtful Debts and paying all Charges and Current Expenses 14,982 3 8

Cr. £783,005 7 3

Cash in hand, Government Securities, India Bonds, Bills discounted, &c. £779,005 7 3
Value of Banking Premises, Fittings, and Furniture, at Lothbury and Henrietta-st. 4,000 0 0

£783,005 7 3

Dr.

Dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum for the half-year ending 31st December, 1849, already paid £3,879 0 10
Dividend at ditto, for the half-year ending 30th June, 1850 4,043 8 0
Bonus of 7s. 6d. per share on 6,739 shares 2,527 2 6
Rebate of Interest on Current Bills carried to profit and loss new account 2,064 3 9
Balance carried to the Guarantee Fund, making that fund £23,114 12s. 8d. 2,468 8 7

Cr. £14,982 3 8

Balance brought down £14,982 3 8

COMMERCIAL BANK of LONDON.

The Directors hereby give notice, that a DIVIDEND on the paid-up capital of the Company, at the rate of £6 per cent. per annum, for the half-year ending 30th June, 1850, and a Bonus at the rate of 7s. 6d. per share, both free from Income Tax, will be PAYABLE at the Banking-house in Lothbury, on and after the 1st of August next.

By order of the Board,

Dated 23rd July, 1850.

A. R. CUTBILL, Manager.

JOHN MORTLOCK'S CHINA and EARTHENWARE BUSINESS is CARRIED ON in OXFORD STREET only. The premises are the most extensive in London, and contain an ample assortment of every description of goods of the first manufacturers. A great variety of Dinner Services at four guineas each, cash. —250, Oxford Street, near Hyde Park.

**REMOVE THE CAUSE AND THE EFFECT
WILL CEASE.**

INDIGESTION is the cause of nearly

all the Diseases to which we are subject; and the most certain and safe remedy for Indigestion, and all Stomach Complaints, is NORTON'S CAMOMILE PILLS, a medicine so uniformly grateful and beneficial, that it is with Justice called the "Natural Strengthener of the Human Stomach." They speedily remove all the distressing symptoms attendant upon a disordered state of the stomach and bilious organs, and are infallible for sick head-ache, flatulent distensions, and acidity of the stomach, depressed spirits, disturbed sleep, violent palpitations, irregular appetite, general debility, spasms, costiveness, &c. Sold in Bottles, price 1s. 1d., 2s. 9d., or 1s. each, in every town in the kingdom.—CAUTION: Be sure to ask for "NORTON'S PILLS," and do not be persuaded to purchase any of the various imitations which have sprung up in consequence of the success of Norton's Camomile Pills.

SALES BY AUCTION.

AUTOGRAPHS AND MSS., ILLUSTRATIVE OF THE HISTORY AND PROGRESS OF WESLEYAN METHODISM, ENGRAVINGS, PHILOSPHICAL INSTRUMENTS, &c., LATE THE PROPERTY OF THE REV. JOHN SUNDIUS STAMP, DECEASED.

PUTTICK & SIMPSON, Auctioneers of Literary Property, WILL SELL by Auction at their Great Room, 191, Piccadilly, on TUESDAY, August 6th, and following day, the MS. Collections of the late Rev. John Sundius Stamp, consisting of about 6000 Autograph Letters of every period and class, all neatly mounted and extensively illustrated with Engravings, Collection of MSS., Journals, &c. Catalogues will be sent on application.

PEREMPTORY SALE—TO CAPITALISTS—SECURE AND PROFITABLE INVESTMENT, REGENT'S PARK, LONDON.

M R. LEIFCHILD has received instructions to SELL, at Garraway's, on TUESDAY, August 6th, that known and favourite EXHIBITION, the DIORAMA, with the two pictures now exhibiting, and many of the celebrated pictures which have been exhibited in former years. The DIORAMA is most substantially built, and is in good repair, upwards of 10,000, having been expended in its erection and fitting-up. The situation is of first-rate importance, and is daily improving in value. The property consists of the Diorama, which is entered from Park Square, through a portico, into an entrance-hall, with pay-office and private room; the public saison, tastefully decorated and arranged; the exhibition room, with workshops, machine-room, and several rooms on the basement. Four large rooms on the second and third floors may, at a small expense, be converted into a capital dwelling-house, fronting Park-square. The buildings cover a larger area than any similar exhibition in London, and there are two vacant plots of ground behind communicating with Albany-mews, so that the exhibition may either be continued in its present form or be easily adapted (if required) for the exposition of any other works of art on a large and grand scale. The present opportunity, therefore, is well worthy the attention of men of taste and admirers of the fine arts who have the command of capital, and may be made extremely productive at the exhibition of the Works of all Nations for 1851, at which period it is apparent that immense advantages must accrue from holding a property of such magnitude, and capable of being applied to the most varied and important purposes. The property is held under a lease, of which 72 years were unexpired at Midsummer, 1850, at the very moderate ground-rent of 200/- per annum.

Descriptive particulars, with a plan of the property, may be had at the Offices of Messrs. WINTER, WILLIAMS, and Co., Solicitors, 16, Bedford-row; Messrs. SMART, BULLER, and SMART, Solicitors, 51, Lincoln's-inn fields; or of Mr. LEIFCHILD, Land and Timber Offices, 62, Moorgate-street, and 68, St. James's-street, London, who is authorized to treat with any gentleman who may be desirous of purchasing by Private Contract.

ECONOMIC

LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

The Rt. Hon. Sir T. FRANKLAND LEWIS, Bt., M.P.,
Chairman.

HENRY FREDERICK STEPHENSON, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

ADVANTAGES.

The lowest rates of Premium on the Mutual System.

The whole of the Profits divided among the Assured every Fifth Year.

The sum of £272,000 was added to Policies at the last Division, which produced an average Bonus of £62; per Cent. on the Premiums paid.

Amount of Assurance Fund, £970,000. Income, £170,000 per Annum.

Loans granted on such Policies as are purchaseable by the Society.

For particulars apply to

ALEXANDER MACDONALD, Secretary,
6, NEW BRIDGE STREET, BLACKFRIARS.

ANNUAL DIVISION OF PROFITS.

GREAT BRITAIN

MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY,
14, WATERLOO PLACE, & 52, KING WILLIAM STREET, CITY.

THE CHISOLM, Chairman.

RICHARD HARTLEY KENNEDY, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

THIS Society is established on the tried and approved principle of Mutual Assurance. The Funds are accumulated for the exclusive benefit of the Policy holders, under their own immediate superintendence and control. The Profits are divided annually, and applied in reduction of the future Premiums.

At the Annual General Meeting, held on the 9th instant, an elaborate and highly satisfactory Report of the state of the Society's affairs was submitted to the Members, whereupon it was resolved, unanimously, that an allowance of Thirty per Cent. should be made on the Premiums payable on all Policies on the participating scale, on which five or more yearly payments had been previously made.

Credit is allowed for half the Annual Premium for the first five years.

The following Table exemplifies the effect of the present reduction:

Age when Assured.	Amount Assured.	Annual Premium hitherto paid.	Reduction of 30 per cent.		Annual Premium now payable.
			£	s.	
29	1000	20 12 6	5	3	14 3 3
30	1000	23 13 4	7	14 0	17 9 4
40	1000	33 18 4	10	3 6	23 14 10
50	1000	48 16 8	14	13 0	34 3 8

A. R. IRVINE, Managing Director.
14, Waterloo Place, 10th May, 1850.

DIVISION OF PROFITS.

IMPERIAL

LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY,
1, OLD BROAD STREET, LONDON.

CHARLES CAVE, Esq., Chairman.

THOMAS NEWMAN HUNT, Esq., Deputy-Chairman.

THE third decennial and second quinquennial appropriation of Profits will be made in the year 1851, and Policies effected during the current year will be included in the quinquennial division of 80 per cent. of the whole Profits.

SECURITY.—In addition to an adequate reserve to meet the liability under every policy, valued separately, this Company affords the Security of a subscribed Capital, exceeding in amount 100 per cent. of the gross value of all its liabilities, at a charge of less than 3 per cent. on the Premiums received during the last quinquennial period.

THE PROFITS added to many of the oldest Policies are sufficient to extinguish all the future Premiums.

ONE-THIRD of the Premium from the commencement may remain on credit, by which £1500 may be insured on payment of a Premium for £1000.

INSURANCES without participation in Profits are granted at reduced Premiums.

Prospectuses and further information may be had at the Chief Office, as above; at the Branch Office, No. 16, Pall Mall, or of the Agents in Town and Country.

SAMUEL INGALL, Actuary.

Publications.

WITH ILLUSTRATION, AND PORTRAIT OF LABLACHE.

The August Number, Price Half-a-Crown, of
BENTLEY'S MISCELLANY
WILL CONTAIN

The Ladder of Gold, by Robert Bell—The Female Wrecker, and the House of Mystery—A Brace of Ghost Stories, by the Author of "Experiences of a Gaol Chaplain"—The Two Funerals, by W. H. Maxwell—Forty Years' Recollections of a London Actor, by A. V. Campbell—Inedited Letters of Mrs. Piozzi—The Queens of Spain—The Past and Present State of France—Correspondence of the Emperor Charles V.—Prince Talleyrand, from a Sketch by Châteaubriand—Amusements of the People, by Alfred Crowquill—The American Seasons, by Alfred Street—Prospects of Hungary—"Getting Acquainted with the Medicines"—The Siege of Venice—The Angel's Mission—Our Pen and Ink Gallery, by Alfred Crowquill—Lablache—Reviews, &c.

Richard Bentley, New Burlington-street.

COLBURN'S NEW MONTHLY MAGAZINE. Edited by WILLIAM HARRISON AINSWORTH, Esq.

CONTENTS FOR AUGUST. No. CCCLVI.
MR. MECHI'S FARM AT TIPTREE HALL. BY A LANDLORD.
RESPONSIBILITY OF MONOMANIA.
A PORTSMOUTH PIC-NIC. BY DUDLEY COSTELLO.
A CHATRON ON DIAMONDS.
THE SHIPWRECK OF THE ST. GERAN. BY GEORGE CORNANE CUNNINGHAM, Esq.
DECLINE OF FRANCE.
THE PATRIOT STATESMAN.
THE LION HUNTER.
SOAPY SPONGE'S SPORTING TOUR. CHAPS. XLIX. AND L.
&c. &c. &c.
Chapman and Hall, 186, Strand.

On the 31st will be published, price One Shilling, No. 16 of **DAVID COPPERFIELD THE YOUNGER, OF BLUNDERSTONE ROKERY.** By CHARLES DICKENS. With Illustrations by HARLOT K. BROWNE. To be completed in Twenty Monthly Numbers. London: Bradbury and Evans, 11, Bouvierie Street.

"FAMILIAR IN THEIR MOUTHS AS HOUSEHOLD WORDS." Shakespeare.

On the 31st instant, will be published, price Ninepence, THE FOURTH MONTHLY PART OF **HOUSEHOLD WORDS.** A WEEKLY JOURNAL designed for the Instruction and Entertainment of all Classes of Readers. Conducted by CHARLES DICKENS. Publishing weekly, price 2d., or stamped, 3d.; and in Monthly Parts.

Also,

THE HOUSEHOLD NARRATIVE OF CURRENT EVENTS from June 28 to July 29, being a Monthly Supplement to **HOUSEHOLD WORDS.** Price 2d., or stamped, 3d.

Office, No. 16, Wellington Street North (where all Communications to the Editor must be addressed); and all Booksellers and Newsmen.

Just published, price 1s.,

PATTERN PEOPLE. By DAVID DRAWWELL. Contents:—The Pattern Clerk—Scrub—Drudge—Philanthropist—Doctor—Shopkeeper—Exquisite—Master—Mother—Deceiver, &c. S. Y. Collins, 113, Fleet-street, London. Will be forwarded by the Author (11, Thornhill-place, Caledonia-road) on receipt of thirteen postage labels.

ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY, JOURNAL OF THE. Vol. XX. Part I. Published this day, by MURRAY, Albemarle-street.

CONTENTS.

Council Report—Anniversary Address, with the Awards of the Royal Premiums—Santonir—Abila—Madagascar—Texas—The Donkin Pass—Japan—Coal in the Straits of Magellan—The Venetian Language of West Africa—Expedition to the South African Lakes—The Level of the Nile. With Seven Maps and Illustrations.

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JUVENILE PIANOFORTE MUSIC.

—Hamilton's Modern Instructions, 4s.; his 24 Scores, 1s.; Craven's Musée du Pianiste, 24 Airs as Rondos, each 1s.; Philipp's Charms of Melody, 24 Airs as Rondos, each 1s.; Valentine's Early Steps, 12 numbers, 1s. each; Craven's Twelve Italian Airs, 1s. each; Clarke's Spring Flowers, 1s. each; his 24 National Airs, 1s. each; his Easy Lessons, 4 books, 3s. each; Glover's Twelve Rondinas, 1s. each; Cherny's Jeunesse Dociile, 50 numbers, 2s. each; Chauvel's le Voyageur, 50 books, 1s. each.—London: R. Cocks and Co., New Burlington Street, publishers to the Queen.

This day is published, 1 Vol., small 8vo, 7s. 6d.
THE LIFE OF EBENEZER ELLIOTT,

THE CORN-LAW RHYMER.

Edited by his SON-IN-LAW, JOHN WATKINS. Including his Private Correspondence, from authentic sources, accessible to the Editor only.

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